

Pulman's View from Honiton



ISSUE NUMBER 508 Est. April 2005

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Tuesday, January 6th 2015

**Principal's
praise for
DofE
students**
See page 6



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**INSIDE YOUR
PULMAN'S
VIEW
THIS WEEK**

Police cuts 'catastrophic'

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FURTHER cuts to police budgets could have a "catastrophic" impact in Honiton and the force must urgently consider reorganising its resources, critics have warned.

The town's senior citizens say local policing will be left in a "parlous state" if planned government cutbacks are followed through in the new year.

The Home Office announced before Christmas that police forces across the country will face a five per cent cut in 2015/16 – a funding reduction

by Jack Dixon
jack@pemedi.co.uk

of almost £300 million.

And Tony Hogg, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall, has already conceded that the cuts were bigger than expected and will have an impact on services.

■ CONTINUED on page 4



■ HONITON MP Neil Parish has promised to put more pressure on communications provider BT to speed up its broadband rollout programme, as rural communities continue to struggle with poor connections. He met with Chamber of Commerce committee members Colin Wright, Sue Bewsey (left) and Mandy Newman to discuss the issue before Christmas

See page 4 for the full story

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YOUR TOWN, YOUR NEWS...YOUR VIEW – across East Devon

IN THIS WEEK'S PULMAN'S VIEW

SPORT

Bowls club rewards charities



◆ **THANK YOU:** (from left to right) David Nangle, Mary Bolshaw, Ron Berry, Don Hansford, Sue Gibson

REPRESENTATIVES from the Devon Air Ambulance and Honiton Hospiscare Support Group attended Ottery St Mary Short Mat Bowls Club recently to receive cheques on behalf of their charities.

Club chairman Ron Berry presented £400 to Don Hansford on behalf of DEVON AIR AMBULANCE and £1,300 to Mary Bolshaw and Sue Gibson on behalf of the EAST DEVON HOSPICE DAY CENTRE appeal.

These were the proceeds of the bowls club's annual charity bowling competitions held in October and November.

The bowls club is open on Monday nights from 7pm to 10pm and Wednesday mornings 10am to 12 noon, if you are interested come and see if Short Mat Bowling is for you, new members are always welcome; you are never too young or old to give it a try.



Get this unwanted Christmas Cracker as a new year gift to yourself. Has been used to living indoors but only a baby so outside space would be fun!



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01404 45241
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View 2

The ultimate leisure guide for East Devon

► SOUTHERN TENANT FOLK UNION

Group come to Lyme Regis in support of new album 'The Chuck Norris Project'

► YOUNGSTERS IN PIANO COMPETITION

► PUSS IN BOOTS IS NEARLY HERE

► CHORAL SOCIETY LOOKING FOR SINGERS

► LISTINGS

Diary Dates - Our weekly round-up of events in the area



SEE PAGES 17-19

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



SEATON: Dick Bell, founder of the charity Seed International Fund Trust, was made an MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours List



BRANSCOMBE: Barbara Farquharson has co-written a book with fellow local writer Sue Dymond on the Branscombe coastline



BEER: Dave Oxley was among the many faces to help out with the village's New Year beach clean-up, which was organised by the Beer Village Heritage Centre. Seventeen bags of rubbish were collected



DUNKESWELL: Anne Barratt has been recognised for her decade long voluntary service with Dunkeswell Youth Club by being awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours List

FEATURES

■ **NEW YEAR, NEW YOU:** Pages 11-13

■ **VIEW 2:** Pages 17-19

■ **JOBS:** Page 20

■ **SAVE AXMINSTER HOSPITAL:**

Pages 21-24

■ **PROPERTY:** Pages 25-30

■ **LOCAL SPORT:** Pages 41-43

Quotes of the week...

“WE are very hopeful that the board will see there are other more productive ways forwards and will agree with us that the best option, all things considered, is to continue with beds in both Seaton and Axminster while we wait for the CCG to decide the overall future in the next few weeks.”

Extract from a statement issued by retired GP Dr James Vann and Steve Holt, Axminster Hospital League of Friends treasurer, on behalf of the Axminster Hospital Action Group

“IT'S not acceptable. We have put the money in and now they are turning round and saying certain places are hard to reach - that is what we put the money in for.”

MP Neil Parish on BT's delivery of a multi-million pound project to improve broadband speeds for rural communities across Devon and Somerset

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TOP STORIES FROM ALL THE OTHER EAST DEVON TOWNS

AXMINSTER

Hospital beds plan is 'ill-conceived'

NHS plans to close in-patient beds at Axminster are "ill-conceived" and "perverse", according to campaigners fighting to protect the future of the town's much admired hospital.

Strong condemnation of how the whole process has been handled - with two possible confusing scenarios being considered for temporary winter closure of beds and complete shut-down of the wards - has come from the Axminster Hospital Action Group on the eve of an NHS Trust Board meeting which could see the beds moth-balled until a final decision is agreed.

Campaigners have been fighting a battle with the NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group over their plans to close the ten in-patient beds in Axminster and transfer them to Seaton where they claim the need is greater.

This argument was strongly refuted at packed out public meetings where it was pointed out that Axminster Hospital, better equipped, served more parishes than Seaton and that NHS officials had not taken into consideration that Axminster also serves Lyme Regis and Charmouth.

At the same time, a different NHS body decided, without consultation, to close the Axminster beds temporarily for the winter months because there were concerns about staff supervision.

An apology was then issued because no consultation was initiated over this decision and the public were given until last Tuesday (December 30th) to make the views known.

Intense activity took place over the Christmas period to mobilise as many objections as possible and tomorrow (January 7th) Axminster Hospital Action Group will attend an extraordinary NHS Trust Board meeting to hear the deliberations on the temporary closure of beds.

From the editor's chair D-Day for future of beds



THIS is an important week for Axminster and Seaton hospitals - a week when we should know which way the land lies with regards to the future of in-patient beds in the Axe Valley.

An extraordinary meeting of the NHS Trust Board is being held to decide whether the ten existing beds at Axminster Hospital, already under threat, will be closed temporarily over the winter months.

The fear is that if the Trust decides to go ahead with the winter closure, put forward because of concerns over staff supervision, the long term decision to move all beds to Seaton will be rubber stamped.

And if the wards are closed in Axminster, does that mean that the future of the hospital itself is in doubt?

This has not been the NHS Trust's finest hour. Having already announced that the beds would be moth-balled for the winter, they then withdrew the decision and apologised for not consulting the public first.

A ridiculously short consultation period, finishing last Wednesday, was then put in place for all those who objected to this move to get their arguments together.

The Axminster Hospital Action Group, already fighting the long-term battle, have done a brilliant job in mobilising as many objectors as possible, including a petition signed by 6,800 local people.

Whatever the outcome, they could not have worked harder and I hope their observations get a fair hearing.

Looking to the future, the Action Group has put together some very cogent arguments of why beds should be retained at Axminster and Seaton. Nobody wants to see two local hospitals, both with excellent reputations, pitched against each other.

The NHS Trust has succeeded marvellously in doing just that. As I said, not their finest hour.

Philip Evans

SEATON

Charity founder is honoured

A DEDICATED local activist, who has worked for years to improve the lives of people in some of the world's most impoverished communities, has been honoured by the Queen.

Seaton's Dick Bell, founder of Christian charity the Seed International Fund Trust (SIFT), was awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours list last week.

For decades Mr Bell has been at the forefront of pioneering work to give hope to underprivileged communities in the third world.

Mr Bell founded the SIFT charity in 2002 and has gone on to help some of the poorest people in the Central American country of Nicaragua.

Most recently he has headed the Palm Tree Associates project, which works to fight extreme poverty and malnutrition by re-building the horticultural industry on the Nicaraguan island of Ometepe.

Mr Bell received a letter notifying him of the award in November, but he said he was "embarrassed" rather than proud to receive the nomination.

"I have been totally embarrassed by it all to be honest, but it certainly is an honour to the Lord," he said.

"If it can help us to enhance the profile of Nicaragua that would be brilliant because so many people are becoming interested and involved."

Having spent 20 years in the RAF as a maritime pilot and flying instructor, Squadron Leader Bell left the force in 1974 and moved to Seaton, where he spent many years as a Bible teacher.

HONITON

Police cuts are 'catastrophic'

FURTHER cuts to police budgets could have a "catastrophic" impact in Honiton and the force must urgently consider reorganising its resources, critics have warned.

The town's senior citizens say local policing will be left in a "parlous state" if planned government cutbacks are followed through in the new year.

The Home Office announced before Christmas that police forces across the country will face a five per cent cut in 2015/16 - a funding reduction of almost £300 million.

And Tony Hogg, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall, has already conceded that the cuts were bigger than expected and will have an impact on services.

Now Honiton's senior citizens, who have consistently warned that police cuts pose a threat to elderly residents, say resources are being stretched to breaking point.

Vic Bowsher, chairman of the Honiton Senior Voice group, met with Mr Hogg before Christmas. He said the cuts could cause an increase in crime and nuisance issues in the town.

"We receive less funding per head than other areas and receive no extra help to cope with huge tourist numbers," said Mr Bowsher.

SIDMOUTH

Swire 'too late' on relocation row

EAST Devon MP Hugo Swire has come under fire for failing to speak up sooner about his concerns over the district council's controversial relocation project.

Local campaigners welcomed Mr Swire's criticism of the move, but said his comments had come "too late", with the council expected to press ahead with the project in the new year.

Last week the issue sparked a clash between Mr Swire and the council's Conservative leader Paul Diviani, who accused the MP of electioneering.

He said it remained a priority to see the project through and claimed that Mr Swire had raised his concerns "because he has an election to fight".

The council is now set to pursue a revised plan to move to twin sites in Honiton and Exmouth, after members voted last month to scrap the controversial SkyPark project.

The relocation process, which has already cost tax payers more than £700,000, has been strongly criticised over the last two years by campaign groups Save Our Sidmouth and the East Devon Alliance, as well as Independent councillors.

OTTERY ST MARY

Family overwhelmed by appeal success

AN OTTERY man left in a coma following a near-fatal road accident in Thailand will soon be flown back to Devon, after an incredible response to his family's fundraising appeal.

The Grainger family say they are "deeply thankful" for the generosity and kindness shown by members of the community, who have raised more than £25,000 towards the urgent appeal in less than three weeks.

Max Grainger, 35, was hit by a speeding car while riding his motorbike in the city of Hua Hin, where he moved to live in 2013.

His family has been told it is highly unlikely he will make a recovery from the injuries that have kept him in a coma since the accident, but the Graingers are desperate to bring Max back to Devon so he can be assessed by British doctors.

With flights and medical bills spiralling into the tens of thousands of pounds, the family launched a fundraising appeal earlier this month.

And after an unprecedented response, the family is now close to making the dream a reality. To contribute to the Graingers' appeal, visit www.gofundme.com/helpbringmaxhome

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Broadband rollout delays 'not acceptable', says MP

HONITON MP Neil Parish has promised to put more pressure on communications provider BT to speed up its broadband rollout programme, as rural communities continue to struggle with poor connections.

Mr Parish said he had "had enough" of the problems and assured local business leaders that the government is "putting salt on their trails" to ensure the rollout reaches the most isolated areas.

Members of Honiton's Chamber of Commerce quizzed the MP on a range of issues during a breakfast meeting recently.

And Mr Parish gave assurances that he would turn up the heat on BT, which has come under criticism for its delivery of a multi-million pound project to improve broadband speeds for communities across Devon and Somerset.

The provider is aiming to bring internet speeds of 24Mbps to 90 per cent of properties across the

two counties, as part of a major rollout programme in conjunction with local councils and central government.

Mr Parish said: "It's not acceptable. We have put the money in and now they are turning round and saying certain places are hard to reach - that is what we put the money in for."

Mr Parish said the government is working to break down confidentiality clauses to find out exactly where and when the rollout will reach individual communities.

He added: "We are putting salt on their trails - I certainly am because I have had enough. We have got to get something done about it."

"I am bending ears on this, but it seems I may need to bend a few other parts of their anatomy as well."

The Conservative MP, who is seeking to retain his seat at the election next May, also assured business leaders that "signifi-

cant improvements", worth around £200 million, would be made to the A30/A303 all the way through to Honiton, even though government plans for a "roads revolution" stop short of dualising the road beyond the Blackdown Hills.

When questioned by representatives from Honiton Community College about school funding, Mr Parish said he was hopeful that money would be made available for education despite the ongoing deficit reduction programme.

He said: "We have tried to protect the schools budget where possible, but colleges have been hit. It's time we reevaluated that."

"We have got a massive deficit and we have to do something about it."

"But if we are not careful we are going to affect the education of the next generation. This is coming from quite a lot of MPs across the country."



FIRST PRIZE | A Honiton business owner brought a smile to the face of one youngster this Christmas, after donating a sports hamper worth over £100.

Paul Newman, owner of the Honiton Sports Shop in High Street, awarded the gift bundle to 12-year-old Toby Neumegen, after his name was picked out at random in the shop's Christmas prize draw. Toby, who plays football for the Sidmouth Warriors, won a selection of sports equipment to try out in the new year, ranging from a dart board to swimming goggles.

"We have owned the shop for just over a year now and wanted to celebrate in a way that repaid the people that support our endeavours," said Mr Newman.

Seniors' warning over police cuts

Now Honiton's senior citizens, who have consistently warned that police cuts pose a threat to elderly residents, say resources are being stretched to breaking point.

Vic Bowsher, chairman of the Honiton Senior Voice group, met with Mr Hogg before Christmas. He said the cuts could cause an increase in crime and nuisance issues in the town.

"We receive less funding per head than other areas and receive no extra help to cope with huge tourist numbers," said Mr Bowsher.

"Many people do not realise the parlous state our police will be left in - we want to get the message out that such cuts are unacceptable for our community. We used to have ten PCSOs in the area, but now we only have two and police resources are really stretched to the limit."

The commissioner recently apologised for the force's failure to fully consult with local people over proposals to close the Honiton station's enquiry point.

And town councillors have shared the seniors' concerns that the 101 non-emergency number - regarded as an alternative to face-to-face contact -

is not working.

The force has been finding new ways to secure services in recent years as government cutbacks bite, but Mr Hogg, speaking before Christmas, said it would be "impossible" to absorb the proposed reductions without an impact on services.

Senior Voice spokesman Tony Simpson, who also visited Mr Hogg at the Beehive last month, said the funding "black hole" could prove "catastrophic".

"Mr Hogg was even talking of using volunteers and appointing unsalaried special constables, though there would be understandable resistance to volunteers by regular police officers and some of the public," said Mr Simpson.

"We pointed out that Honiton is expanding at the very time the police front desk is closed and the 101 system is not coping."

"With the East Devon District Council headquarters coming here, along with hundreds of extra staff and visitors, the commissioner and the police must consider the impact."

"They must consider a transfer of police resources or there could be unfortunate consequences if policing is further reduced."

■ CONTINUED from page 1

Council survey shows continued satisfaction with East Devon services

EAST Devon District Council's 2014 Viewpoint survey results reveal that residents of all ages and backgrounds, as well as its towns and parishes, are generally very happy with the quality of services provided by their council.

Council Leader, Paul Diviani, said: "The feedback from the three surveys we carried out has given us invaluable insight into how the people of East Devon feel about our services. Their opinions are invaluable to us and will help us continue to improve the services we provide both now and in the future."

"This is the second time we have sent out this survey and I am pleased that so many people care enough about what we are trying to achieve to take the trouble to share their views. It matters enormously to us that our customers feel that we act quickly to resolve any issues they report. Most of all, it shows they have trust in us."

"We will keep this dialogue going and the Viewpoint Survey will be sent out again in 2016. It's part of a two-way conversation between us and the people who matter – our customers."

"I am also delighted that more people feel that we offer good housing benefit and council tax services. It is a reflection of the hard work put in by council staff since our 2013 residents' survey."

"We will now draw up an action plan to address the areas for improvement."

East Devon residents survey results

Overall

- The biggest and most positive change since the last survey has been the 7 per cent increase in the number of people who thought that the council responds quickly when asked for help (56 per cent agreed, 12 per cent disagreed).
- Customer satisfaction with the way the council

runs its services was good (71 per cent agreed, while 13 per cent disagreed) and many people feel that the council keeps them informed (79 per cent agreed, while 21 per cent disagreed).

- 66 per cent of residents felt that the council provides value for money, against 14 per cent who disagreed.

- Where residents weren't happy with the council overall, or felt that the council does not act on what they say, planning and development was the most significant issue.

Services

- Since 2013 more people are pleased with housing benefit and council tax services, which has risen by 7 per cent to 53 per cent.

- The council scored well on household waste collection and green box recycling with 88 per cent and 84 per cent respectively being happy customers. As in 2013, people would like to see a garden waste service and would like to be able to recycle cardboard and mixed plastics. This feedback is invaluable as we enter into a procurement and negotiation for the future of the waste and recycling contract.

- 87 per cent of people feel confident about food hygiene when eating out in cafes and restaurants.
- 79 per cent of people are satisfied with parks, public gardens, play areas and open spaces.

- Litter is a greater worry, with more people concerned about litter, rubbish and vandalism – 23 per cent feel it is a very or fairly big problem compared to 11 per cent in 2013.

Priorities

- At least 68 per cent of residents agreed that the council capitalises on the district's natural landscape and countryside to attract visitors.
- On town regeneration, 49 per cent of people felt

that the council was doing well (although this figure has fallen 9 per cent since 2013).

- 47 per cent of people thought the council is doing well on delivering jobs in the west of the district.

Safety

This scored extremely high on customer satisfaction, with most people feel safe during the daytime in East Devon (96 per cent agreed), although less people feel safe after dark (77 per cent). People say they would feel safer with a greater police presence (which is outside the council's control) and if there were more street lights.

Taverners' Christmas lunch benefits local children

SEATON mayor Gaynor Sedgwick was among the guests when members of Lady Taverners (Devon and Exeter) and friends enjoyed Christmas lunch at The Harbour Inn, Axmouth.

The charity raises money to help children with special needs and this year the Seaton branch of the Devon and Exeter region has been able to take children on an outing to Pecorama and hold a Christmas Party as well as donating money for specialist equipment for schools and centres in the region.

Devon and Exeter chairman Wendy Hayden said: "We aim to have fun while fundraising and this year's lunch ticked both boxes – a great lunch with guests being greeted with a Bucks Fizz reception followed by an excellent meal."

"The tombola and raffle raised nearly £200, so everyone was a winner on this very happy day."

Business breakfast to raise funds for Hospice appeal

SCOTT Rowe solicitors in Axminster and Cranberries Luxury Hideaway in Kilmington are starting 2015 with the spirit of giving.

On Wednesday, January 14th 2015 they will be hosting a charity business breakfast for businesses across east Devon, in aid of the Hospice East Devon Day Hospice appeal and their Shrub Club campaign, from 8.30 until 10am. There are businesses attending from Axminster, Sidmouth, Beer, Honiton and Exeter to support Hospiscare.

"The garden at our East Devon Day Hospice in Honiton has been designed to offer a restful and natural environment"

The garden will offer patients a therapeutic place to rest and relax throughout their time of stress and caters for patients across east Devon.

The East Devon Day Hospice will give high-quality care and dedicated support to people who are terminally ill, and their families, free of charge across east Devon. It relies on businesses and individuals to help raise the money to support everyone who needs their help, whether it's for specialist doctors, nurses, consultants or simply someone to listen.

Both Scott Rowe solicitors and Cranberries would love as many local businesses and individuals in the east Devon area to come along for a fry up at Cranberries Luxury Hideaway to support this fantastic cause that touches all our lives for just £10 per head.

For further information or to book a place please contact Julie or Kate at Scott Rowe solicitors on 01297 32345 or Verity at Cranberries Luxury Hideaway on 01297 33193.

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Principal's praise for DofE students

SOME of Honiton's most ambitious young students have been praised for their outstanding achievements, after receiving bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh awards.

Honiton Community College students were awarded their prestigious certificates at a special prize-giving ceremony recently, after passing a series of tough challenges.

by Jack Dixon
jack@pemedial.co.uk

The DofE programme tests various physical and mental skills, while encouraging participants to volunteer in the community and plan an expedition away from home.

And parents, friends and teachers visited the school to see the students presented with their

awards. The college's DofE coordinator Pippa Wyatt said the awards evening had represented a great achievement, both for the students and the school.

"This is the third group of bronze students we have had and the first group of silver achievers – and the majority of those are continuing on to attempt the gold standard," she said.

"I have to thank all the people

who have volunteered their time to run the award. It would not have happened without them."

All the students who have participated over the last 18 months achieved either the bronze or silver standard.

Those seeking the gold award next year will conduct an additional residential trip on top of the

list of accomplishments already achieved.

College principal Glenn Smith added: "DofE is an outstanding opportunity for our students to develop team working, communication, problem solving, self-management and positive mental skills.

"Employers, further education

colleges, sixth forms and universities know this, so the awards gained will serve our students well for the rest of their lives.

"I am proud that Honiton Community College students are keen to participate in the awards, and I am grateful that we have dedicated and enthusiastic staff willing to co-ordinate and run the activities



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RAISING THE ROOF | Youngsters from Littleton Primary Academy were in good voice to entertain guests at St Paul's Church in the run-up to Christmas. Pupils of all ages took part in the school's traditional carol service, watched by teachers, friends and family. The children performed a series of popular Christmas carols to mark the occasion, as part of the academy's festive celebrations.

■ PUPILS at Honiton Primary School staged a Christmas production with a twist this year, as youngsters from year groups one and two dressed to impress for a performance of the classic festive tale 'The Night Before Christmas'.

Around 100 Key Stage One children took to the stage to perform in front of an audience of parents and friends in the final week before the holidays.

Honiton Toy Shop generously donated various props for the show, and teachers Julie Blandford and Jossie Head thanked all those involved for helping to organise the production.



In the spirit

Queen's honour for 'tireless' Anne

A "TIRELESS" volunteer from Dunkeswell, near Honiton, has been honoured by the Queen for her years of service to young people.

Anne Barratt, 57, *pictured right*, was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours list, alongside some of the South West's most dedicated community servants.

Leader of the Dunkeswell Youth Club for over a decade, Mrs Barratt was praised for her work supporting young people of all ages and backgrounds.

Mrs Barratt, who has lived in the

by Jack Dixon
jack@pemedial.co.uk

area for 25 years and works at Fitzallan Gems in Sidmouth, is credited with transforming the club's culture and expanding its membership, with around 120 young people now engaged in a range of social activities in the village. And her efforts in the community are also said to have played a significant part in helping to keep the village a safe and friendly place for all its residents.

"Youth crime is almost non-ex-

istent in Dunkeswell and this is attributed largely to her tireless voluntary efforts," an official tribute from the cabinet office read.

"She has ensured close working relationships with all local institutions to ensure local young people get what they need.

"She takes an inclusive approach, seeking to support and nurture young people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities through any issues or barriers they may encounter."

Since launching the youth club in 2003, Mrs Barratt has recruited a team of adult volunteers to help

organise regular club evenings and events, but has always allowed young members themselves to be involved in shaping the club.

She said: "It is their youth club and they dictate what we do. It is something that is really needed in the village.

"We do quite a bit in the community and it helps youngsters to get to know other people in the village, other than their peers."

Mrs Barratt was one of seven community servants from Devon

to be awarded the British Empire Medal in the honours list, unveiled on New Year's Day. And when she first received the notification letter in November, she thought some friends were playing a prank on her.

"It came completely out of the blue and I thought it was a joke because it was so well-written. I kept hold of it for a week before I answered it! Working with young people is a total privilege anyway, but to have people recognise it in this way has been really humbling."



Hands on

■ **BUDDING** young artists received some professional help during a one-off workshop recently.

GCSE and A level Textiles students at Honiton Community College received some words of inspiration from top artist Tony Minnion, as part of a project to produce a striking display for the school's new technology building.

Mr Minnion (*pictured*) works in a range of mediums, alongside storytellers, photographers, musicians, fashion designers, writers and poets, but offered his services to Honiton students recently.

Textiles teacher Julie Duncan said the students' "vibrant" work would enhance their GCSE and A level portfolios.

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Junior Starz give shoppers a festive Zumba display

THE JM DanceFit Little and Junior Starz* children, including those from Seaton and

Beer Schools, ended their Autumn Term on a high with a spectacular Victorian-themed Zumba display at the Seaton Artisan Christmas Market Event. The chimney sweeps display performed in Windsor Gardens was well received and thoroughly enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic audience who showed their appreciation with loud applause and happy cheers.

At the end of term

parents and family were treated to the children's festive school performances, where all of the Little and Junior Starz* were awarded well-deserved certificates of achievement for their hard work this term. The classes, which allow children to have fun while improving both their confidence and their fitness levels, will continue to be held at the schools by local Zumba instructor Johanna Morgan for the

foreseeable future. New children are welcome to join in the termly classes in January, recommencing in Beer on Friday 9th and Seaton on Monday 12th. Please contact Johanna directly for further details at johanna@jmdancefit.co.uk or on 07739 518587.

Johanna, Zumba Fitness & Dance Instructor, said: "I was so very proud of all of the Little Junior Starz* and their end of term

performances, including the Seaton Christmas market display. In addition to the weekly classes, the taster performances given at the end of each term are a great way to help increase both the children's self-esteem and confidence. I am thoroughly looking forward to continuing the termly classes in January 2015 and wish all of the children a wonderful festive holiday – Merry Christmas!"

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■ FESTIVE SPIRIT
A pair of Christmas puddings escaped the Boxing Day swim in one piece

Swimmers make a splash at festive Swim

SWIMMERS dressed in all manner of fancy dress took the plunge on Boxing Day by diving into the Sidmouth seafront for a festive dip.

Visitors from all over East Devon flocked to the Esplanade to take part in the Christmas tradition, and hundreds more watched on from underneath umbrellas.

Unpredictable weather conditions had threatened to put the event at risk, but organisers were able to give swimmers the all clear on Boxing Day morning.

Competitors wearing costumes of every description gathered outside Sidmouth Sailing Club just before 11am, before the cannon was fired on the beach to signal the start of the challenge.

And freezing temperatures and pouring rain failed to dampen the spirits of the swimmers, who soaked up the Christmas atmosphere on the seafront.

Organised by the Sidmouth Regatta committee, in conjunction with Sidmouth Lifeboat, the traditional swim was started in 1985 and has been a regular fixture on the East Devon Christmas calendar since.

Spectators also donated a total of £1,200 towards the RNLI during the event, which will mark its 30th anniversary this year.

■ BLAST OFF | Swimmers clad in wartime attire kicked off the event by firing the cannon



■ TAKING THE PLUNGE | Hundreds of competitors dived into the sea outside Sidmouth Sailing Club

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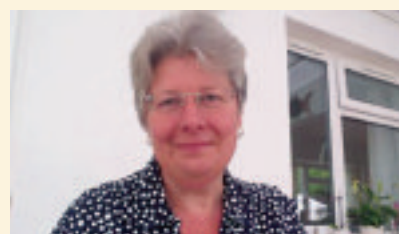
Christmas has gone it's time to look to the New Year

IS it time to turn the page and start a new chapter of your life?

Hypnotherapy is known to be able to help many make those changes. Most people think of it helping to stop smoking and lose weight, but it can help a much wider range of health issues, all of which are impacted by stress anxiety fear or phobias. For many it is an unknown, and a little worrying. So it's time to set things straight.

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The client, then should practice what ever they have agreed to do, and this then reinforces the suggestions for the changes, so it just gets easier and easier.

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Hypnotherapy is a safe, enjoyable therapy that often brings rapid results. Most people find it a relaxing, calming and up-lifting experience that can lead to transformation in many areas of life. All that's required is an open mind, desire to change, belief this is possible and willingness to fully participate. A recent client said "I feel a different person... I'm now far more relaxed and feel more confident in everything I do... the results have been far beyond my expectations." Beginning a course of hypnotherapy could be one of the most empowering decisions you ever make!

Samantha offers a friendly, professional service in Seaton and Axminster. For a free consultation call 07809447720, or email info@hypno4freedom.co.uk

Samantha Davey Hypnotherapy

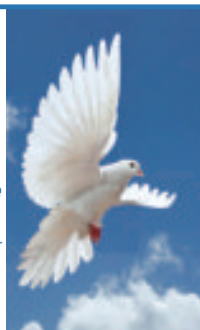
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Acupuncture, Aromatherapy, Lymphatic Drainage and Precision Reflexology are also available at the Centre and further details and offers about some of these treatments can be found on our blog page. The blog page can be easily accessed by visiting our website www.axminsterwellbeing.com

We are delighted to be able to introduce three new therapies and two new members to our team for 2015. Joining us will be Jane Spyk who practices Kinesiology and Zero Balancing and Jayne Palmer who is a Medical Herbalist.

In Spring 2015 we will be running a Course in Mindfulness. Mindfulness is proven to have lasting benefits and can help with many conditions including stress, anxiety and chronic pain.

To find out more please call on 01297 32331 and to keep up to date with our latest offers please email us at info@axminsterwellbeing.com to sign up to our free regular newsletter – Tidings.



Axminster Health & Wellbeing Centre

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www.enlightenedbody.co.uk

Group Pilates matwork
courses begin from
5th January

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pilates@enlightenedbody.co.uk

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PILATES Matwork group courses start from the week of January 5th at Enlightened Body Pilates Studio just 1.5 miles outside Honiton. Just 6 people per class gives you the attention you deserve to get the most from your workouts.

As a beginner, choose from the Core Fundamentals courses, where you will methodically learn the nuts and bolts of the Pilates Matwork... or Strengthen and Restore courses, challenging yet therapeutic mat-based workouts that progressively improve your wellbeing whilst alleviating aches and pains.

For those who are already well versed in the Pilates Matwork series, Precision and Flow classes challenge you to refine your technique and deepen your practice, progressing into more challenging sequences.

Each course runs for 7 weeks (w/c Jan 5th to w/c

Feb 16th) at a fee of £70. The busy schedule includes both daytime and evening classes. Mats and small equipment are provided in our dedicated studio at rural Woodhayes.

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Not ready right now? Register your interest early for new groups coming soon on Fridays.



Lindy Parry Podiatrist

I HOLD my private chiropody clinic at Townsend House Surgery in Seaton on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

I offer a range of treatments from a simple nail cut to nail surgery, and each treatment plan is priced accordingly.

The nail cutting only service is a shorter appointment and is ideal for those that don't have any other foot care needs. Others like to alternate nail cuts with chiropody treatments as it best suits their requirements. I always aim to work with the patient to find the best treatment plan to suit each individual. Patients feet are then monitored during treatment so that changes can be made should the need arise.

Diabetic patients who attend for chiropody will also have a diabetic foot assessment carried out

during their first treatment, and will then be monitored and re-assessed as necessary.

My chiropody clinics are available to anybody seeking help with their feet and

Townsend House and I look forward to welcoming you.

Bookings can be made by calling 01297 22956.



Lindy Parry
Podiatrist / Chiropodist

(BSc Hons Podiatry, MChS, HPC Registration number CH26100)

Townsend House Medical Practice Seaton

To make a booking please call
01297 22956

Advertiser's Announcement

Youngsters achieve 5 stone loss with Honiton Slimming World



A COUPLE of Honiton youngsters have achieved their personal weight loss goals in 2014 by losing 5 stone between them and being voted winner and runner up of the Honiton Slimming World Miss Slinky competition.

Roanna joined the group in Honiton in 2013 after seeing herself on her daughter's christening photos. "I've struggled with my weight since I was a teenager and it's always affected my confidence, so much so, I always hated going out as I thought people were staring at me".

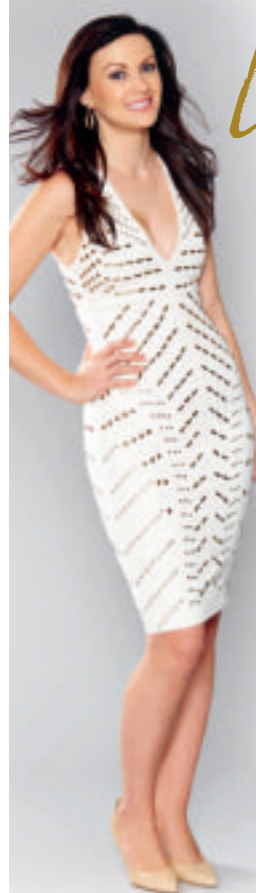
"I was nervous and felt embarrassed that I had to join Slimming World as I thought I would be judged but that couldn't have been more far from the truth. I was made very welcome, everything was kept confidential too. The group were lovely and I couldn't have continued my journey without their support".

"I'm proud of myself now as I never did exercise before yet I now enjoy running and exercise DVDs and I have recently done the Race for Life 5K. The best thing is that my daughter and partner now eat the same as me and my daughter enjoys cooking with me too".

Milly joined Slimming World in April 2014 and has gone on to lose 2 ½ stone in the run up to her wedding in 2015. "Like Roanna, I had struggled with my weight for some time and hated going out as I never knew what to wear. I knew I wanted to lose weight for my wedding but just couldn't get myself started. That was until I rang my Grandma one day who asked me "Are you still fat or have you started losing weight for the wedding yet?" - of course this really hurt and I realised I needed to do something. That's when I found Slimming World".

"I'm finding it really easy and can still enjoy my favourite meal of lasagne and chips cooked in a healthy way, and I can still enjoy some treats, but I have learnt to enjoy them in moderation. I also now love to run and can even get grumpy if I can't go!!! The weight loss has also helped me control my asthma too".

Roanna and Milly attend the Honiton Slimming World group which is held on a Tuesday at 5.30pm or 7.30pm and also on a Wednesday at 9.30am. Both groups are held at the Honiton Family Church on the High Street. For more information please contact their Consultant, Sharon, on 0796 3337178 or visit www.slimmingworld.com/slimathoniton



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Ottery St Mary
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TUESDAYS 5.30PM

& 7.30PM
WEDNESDAYS 9.30AM
Honiton Family Church
High Street
Honiton
Tel: Sharon
07963 337178

TUESDAYS 5.45PM

& 7.30PM
St Johns Ambulance Hall
Colyford Road
Seaton
Tel: Helen
01297 34714

WEDNESDAYS 6.30PM

Masonic Hall
South Street
Axminster
Tel: Helen
01297 34714

visit the website to read Jess's story
slimmingworld.com

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WORLD
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Santa joins band for Brainwave

LOCAL band The Amicrofters hit the High Street in Honiton on Thursday, December 18th. Andrew and June Mycroft – together with Adrian Ball and Father Christmas – played music while collecting for the charity Brainwave.

Mr Mycroft said: "People remarked on the lovely Christmas music and carols that were played,

together with a lot of traditional music, bringing the town to life. "In the two hours that we played, we raised £103.73, thanks to the generosity of the Honiton public. "The Amicrofters would like to take this opportunity to wish all its supporters, clients and friends, a very happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year."



Lodge racks up funds for cancer charity

RESIDENTS at Honiton's Holyshute Lodge have helped retirement developer Churchill raise more than £20,000 towards a campaign to support one of the country's leading cancer charities.

Representatives from Churchill Retirement Living presented a cheque to bosses at Macmillan Cancer Support last week, after a major appeal to back the charity's efforts.

Staff and residents at Holyshute Lodge came together to brew, bake, drink, eat and raffle their way towards the fundraising target, which was eventually exceeded by more than £1,000.

Macmillan's Katie Blake said: "The money raised will go towards supporting the two



million people affected by cancer today, ensuring that no one will face cancer alone.

"Churchill have been fantastic supporters of Macmillan and are helping us be there for someone with cancer when they need us most."

Telling tales

SOME of Honiton's creative young writers put pen to paper as part of a competition to find the town's next literary talent.

Hundreds of youngsters entered the competition, organised for the seventh year by the Honiton and District Writers Group and supported by the Gibbons Family Trust.

The budding young writers each penned a 750-word short story, and children's writer Tracy Alexander was specially invited to the Deer Park Hotel to present a series of prizes



and pass on some valuable advice to the winners (pictured).

"Keep your eyes and ears open – funny and interesting things are always around to give you ideas", she told the young writers.

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Seaton Art

STALWARTS of Seaton and District Art Society met in the Town Hall to review the past year and elect new officers. The chairman, Maureen Turner, declared that the club had a very good year, with demonstrations every month, a newly invigorated Monday club section, and a successful Exhibition in August. Maureen is to stay on as Chairman, with Mike

Ilisley continuing as Secretary. Anna Mason volunteered to help organise the 2015 Exhibition, with Gilly Warner-Mills, Sheila Heys, Anna Day-Lewis, and Janet Owen on committee and the Treasurer yet to be decided. Retiring committee members were suitably thanked. The first demonstration in the Town Hall is to be a talk on abstract impressionism in water-based oils, by member Graham Watson, in the Town Hall at 2pm on January 5th (visitors £3).

Axminster Rotary

ABOUT 30 Axminster Rotarians enjoyed a social occasion at Lyme Regis Golf Club recently. The after dinner speaker was Sir Ken Knight CBE, DFC, DL, an Ex Chief Fire Officer of areas including Devon and Dorset. He explained that after he joined Reigate Fire Station as a fireman in 1966, he progressed through the service, and retired in 2006

after a number of senior posts in the Fire Service nationally. He was then asked to work for the National Fire Commission after the 2006 London Bombings. He became Chief Advisor for the Government for the 2012 Olympics, and was involved in planning for safety of buildings, terrorist events, visitors, athletes and the general public. He then under-

Axminster Royal British Legion

AT the Christmas lunch at Hunter's Lodge, Branch and Women Section members of Axminster Royal British Legion gathered to celebrate the festive season. Following the lunch and raffle, he Chairman thanked the 38 attending and particularly organiser Jane Bastin.

Royal British Legion Branch chairman Dave Warner was the guest speaker at the Axminster Women's Section meeting the following week, telling of the charity, Children of the Far East Prisoners of War, that supports children (and grandchildren) of fathers who died during the Second World War in Japanese prisoner of war camps. Members learned that 80,000 British Servicemen and Allied troops, including the Indian Army and local soldiers,

were forced to surrender when Singapore was overrun by the Japanese in 1941. Three thousand were sent to Changi jail, designed to accommodate 600 and with no sanitation or fresh water. In a project later immortalised by the Alec Guinness film "Bridge on the River Kwai", many were transferred to other camps to build the 250 mile railway track (a feat dismissed as impossible by British engineers years earlier) from Bangkok to Rangoon on which 61,000 allied POWs, kept in appalling and inhuman conditions, died. Of these POWs only 22,381 have a known grave, Dave's father, who died at the age of 26 in 1942, being one of them. Following the surrender of the Japanese in August 1945, American

troops entered the camps and helped the surviving prisoners to be repatriated. This took many months and for some it was too late. Those returned home were subject to both mental and physical health problems for the rest of their lives.

At the end of the talk, a collection was made amongst members and £35 was raised for the ongoing work of the charity, which Dave and his brother have supported for a number of years, with the aim of protecting archival material and a special memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. During the afternoon, members enjoyed a Christmas tea party with food provided by the Women's Section.

The January meeting will take place on Friday, 9th January at 2.30 pm when programmes for the next year will be handed out. Visitors always welcomed.

Phoenix cheque

AXMINSTER Phoenix Ladies Club has presented a £300 cheque to Jill Ruddick, the manager of Axminster's Tourist Information Centre. The cheque was presented to help the centre with its invaluable work in the town. Members of the Phoenix Ladies raised the money throughout the year and voted to donate the proceeds to a local charity of their choice.



DECEMBER'S talk for the Axe Valley branch of the Devonshire Association was a recollection of boyhood days in Musbury during the Second World War by Sean

Dad's Army in the Axe Valley

Day-Lewis, particularly the activities of the Musbury Local Defence Volunteers, the Home Guard.

The Musbury platoon was drawn mainly from the local farming community and those lucky enough to be issued with a rifle found it a useful adjunct to their poaching activities. On the strength of being the com-

pany sergeant major at school, Sean's father, Cecil, took over the platoon as Captain Day-Lewis – "a reluctant poet leading a body of reluctant volunteers".

The Home Guard activities described by Sean seem to be pretty well represented by those re-enacted in Dad's Army, long days and nights standing guard and night manoeuvres on Seaton golf course followed by entertainment at the village hall with Cecil Day-Lewis accompanying himself at the piano. In the dangerous days of 1940-41 when inva-

sion seemed imminent, the Home Guard was charged with manning the Taunton Stop Line. As the danger of invasion receded responsibility for the defences passed from the Home Guard to regular troops.

Sean arrived in Musbury on his seventh birthday and schooled at All Hallows. His first day at school is the subject of a lyrical poem by his father. Cecil Day-Lewis followed his career in the Home Guard working for the army and the Intelligence Services. He was made Poet Laureate in 1968.

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Retirement homes are not inevitable so make your voice heard

■ MCCARTHY and Stone is continuing its attempt to justify its planning application to build retirement homes on the prominent vacant site in Harbour Road, Seaton.

This site was not designated for residential purposes, but was intended for commercial employment generating use, particularly much-needed tourism/leisure use, in accordance with key and overarching local plan policy and the terms of the Tesco supermarket planning permission.

In addition to its planning application, the developer recently issued a "Community Update" on its proposal, which we believe needs to be challenged for inaccuracies and omissions.

Our response is as follows:

1) McCarthy and Stone say they presented their proposals to a community meeting. They don't say that 80 per cent of respondents were against the retirement homes.

2) They say that Knight Frank took extensive steps to market the site as a 100-bedroom hotel. They don't say and we know that their international agent, Knight Frank:

- Has no local commercial offices and no expertise in the East Devon hospitality/leisure markets;

- Placed only one advertisement and that was not in a hotel specialist journal;

- Erected a small sale board on site which was unreadable to passing traffic;

- Sent out its original particulars containing inaccuracy and incomplete information regarding tourist attractions;

- Did not offer the property at a realistic price. In fact, they refused to give any indication of what level an acceptable offer would need to be;

- Offered no evidence that any active marketing was carried out after March 2013;

- Had failed to recognise that, according to the UK Chain Hotels Market Review for March 2014, South West hoteliers turned in the most impressive performance

across the country in terms of year-on-year percentage increase of total revenues per available room (TrevPAR).

We also know, according to Christies 2014 South West Region Hotel Market Review that 2014 has been a record breaking year in completed hotel transactions across Devon, Cornwall & Somerset and, up to end of October, over £35million worth of transactions were completed and a further £11million in the pipeline for completion by the year end. Hotel occupancy increased by up to four per cent, and TrevPAR increased by 12 per cent year on year.

We ask the following:

- Was it in any event, realistic at the time of their appointment to expect anyone to undertake a speculative development of a 100-bedroom hotel in Seaton, knowing that the only coastal resort in Devon to have one this size is Torquay and that at that time hotels of that size were only being built in London and major regional cities?

- Why they did not consider other forms of hospitality accommodation or tourist related employment generating uses, which would be more appropriate to the local tourist demand?

- Why did they not appoint an agent who knew the local market, and what the typical tourist to Seaton would be looking for?

3) They say that Travelodge has well documented financial troubles. We know that Travelodge successfully restructured its finances in 2012, offloading 49 properties, reducing its debt from over £1billion to less than £0.5billion by September 2014, and renegotiated rents and leases across its remaining 109 hotels. In February 2014 they revealed plans to open 15 new hotels and create 1,000 new jobs, including hotels in the seaside towns of Southport, Christchurch, Llandudno and Ryde.

4) They say that there is an anticipated increase in the number of retirees in the future and, therefore, there is need for more retirement homes. They don't

say that:

- This is a countrywide issue and that Seaton's age profile has not significantly changed during the last two decades;

- Seaton already has far more retirement homes per capita of 65 years-plus than either Sidmouth and Budleigh Salterton, as well as more per capita than all other East Devon towns;

- There are also always many retirement properties available unsold in the town. We ask why should Seaton bear a disproportionate amount, and if there is indeed a need, why was it not proposed as part of the Bovis development?

- Seaton's current stock of retirement homes is showing decreasing sale values and do not represent a good investment to buyers, as local estate agents will verify.

5) They say that the proposal will bring jobs and income to the town, and that the residents will spend more in the community than occupiers of non-age restricted housing. We ask the following:

- What will those jobs be, beyond the original building workforce (which any alternative would create) and the provision of one on site manager?

- As the property would be next door to Tesco isn't it more likely that the store will benefit from any spending, rather than the high street shops?

- Why draw the comparison with non-restricted housing?

- Why don't they consider that a development of a suitable 60-bed budget hotel coupled with a pub/restaurant or indoor leisure facility, which could create up to 90 jobs mostly for local people, and tourist spend running to many multiples of what their own residents would spend?

6) They don't say and we know that:

- The Harbour Road site is the ideal location in Seaton for an appropriate hospitality development, and if it was developed for retirement homes, there is no prospect of another suitable site becoming available

in such a good location in the short to medium term;

- Contrary to their update it is incorrect to say that no operator is interested in the site. We have evidence that Travelodge plus one other budget hotel operator currently have Seaton on their list of potential target locations;

- Seaton is on the brink of major regeneration and will be a centre of "green" tourism. Where is the accommodation/leisure provision for the visitors to be located, if not on this site?

- Seaton is in the early stages of huge improvements. Should this important site put profit into the pockets of Tesco and McCarthy & Stone now, or should we wait for fruition of the Seaton Jurassic, Axe Wetlands Nature Reserve and Stop Line cycleway projects in accordance with EDDC's vision for Seaton?

This site is not, as described by the developer as currently "vacant, unused and of no benefit to Seaton". It is a clear, open site reserved for employment use at one of the prominent gateways into the town, where we should be making a statement about where Seaton is going – that is to demonstrate that Seaton is not a town dedicated only to retirement, but with a future for a vibrant mixed community and with a welcome to visitors.

Positive Development for Everyone in Seaton (PODES) will be making all these points to EDDC before they consider this planning application in the near future.

Seaton residents, you have already massively indicated that you do not want more retirement homes on this strategic regeneration site. Please now make your voices heard again; it is not inevitable that Tesco/McCarthy & Stone's proposed development will go ahead.

**Rob Heard on behalf of the members of
Positive Development for Everyone in Seaton
(PODES)**

The views expressed in letters are those of the author and not necessarily of this newspaper

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Caring for someone with dementia yourself can be tiring and often very distressing. Coping with someone whom you may have known and loved for years but who may now often fail to recognise you can be desperately upsetting and difficult to deal with.

Rose Lodge is an active and social home. We have found that people with dementia are generally happier when they are supported to be as active and independent as possible. Our weekly activities programme includes gardening, live music, drama, singing, crafts, a pub quiz, rambling, art, and trips out, as well as individual occupational activities.

So, moving into a home like Rose Lodge is the perfect way for you to give your loved one the best quality of life. In our 2011 relatives survey, all relatives agreed that Rose Lodge offers an excellent quality of care and that their loved one's wellbeing has improved significantly since they joined Rose Lodge. All of them said they would recommend Rose Lodge to their friends.

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View 2

THE ULTIMATE LEISURE GUIDE FOR DEVON

SOUTHERN TENANT FOLK UNION AT THE MARINE THEATRE

Tour for 'The Chuck
Norris Project' album
comes to Lyme Regis

See page 19



Diary Dates

UNTIL SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1st

AXMINSTER: Dalwood spinners, a local craft group who create hand made gifts, give all of the proceeds from their sales to South West Children's Hospice. A selection of their knitted good is currently on display in one of the Old Police cells at the Axminster Arts Cafe Axminster Arts Cafe, The Old Courthouse, Church Street, EX13 5AQ. 01297 631455. Opening hours Tues – Fri 9.00am – 2.00pm; Sat + Mon 9.00 – 12.00

TUESDAY JANUARY 6th

HONITON: There will be a free, 'one off' unique session for people with all types of breathing problems, when expert in the world renowned Buteyko Breathing Rehabilitation Method, Simon Paddon, comes to the Beehive Community Centre, Dowell Street. From 11am. Placements MUST be booked in advance either online at www.buteykomethod.co.uk or by calling 0844 357 7373.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7th

SEATON: Seaton and District Men's Probus Club meeting at St. Gregory's Church Centre, Colyford Road, at 10am when the speaker will be David Dumbleton on 'The Police'. New members welcome (Keith West on 01297 624374).

AXMINSTER: Axminster Historical Society Local Heroes. The Duke of Marlborough at Axminster: Douglas Hull will tell of how the Duke, in the 1688 Revolution, joined William of Orange's forces at Axminster. Margaret Dangerfield will speak about William Buckland, theologian, geologist and palaeontologist who wrote the first full account of a fossil dinosaur. He also became Dean of Westminster. All welcome. 7.30pm The United Reform Church Hall, Chard Street, Axminster, EX13 5EB

THURSDAY JANUARY 8th

SEATON: Meet the Birds – improve your birdwatching skills with an experienced volunteer guide in the hide. At Tower Hide, Axe Estuary Wetlands. Parking through Seaton cemetery. 1-3pm. Free. **SEATON:** Seaton Garden Club monthly meeting now at NEW VENUE Masonic Hall, Queen Street, adjacent to John Woods Estate Agents at 2.30pm until 4pm, illustrated talk by Ben Candlin 'The Exotic Garden'. Visitors welcome Charge £2 to include refreshments. Contact details: 01297 24049 **SEATON:** Seaton Knitting and Crochet group meets Thursdays at Pebbles Coffee House from 10-12. Come along and enjoy a coffee. Beginners welcome.

FRIDAY JANUARY 9th

HONITON: Honiton Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Heathfield Inn, 11am

SUNDAY JANUARY 11th

SIDMOUTH: Pete Allen Solo Jazz Show at Stowford Community Centre, Chambers Close, 3-5.30pm (doors 2pm.) Admission £7. Call 078 999 25194 for more details.

SUNDAY JANUARY 11th – SUN FEBRUARY 1st

AXMINSTER: In one of the Old Police cells will be an exhibition of pictures by Megs Rimmer, David Starr and John Whenray. With her love of harmony of colours, Megs produces small oil paintings which are bright and refreshing whatever the subject. They are currently priced at half their normal price. Meanwhile David, who is both colour blind and on the blind register mainly produces portraits. He has worked in all mediums and has an oil, acrylic, charcoal and watercolour on show. John has three small scraper board pictures available to view Axminster Arts Cafe, The Old Courthouse, Church Street, Axminster. EX13 5AQ. 01297 631455. Tues–Fri 9am–2pm; Mon & Sat 9am–12pm

MONDAY JANUARY 12th

AWLISCOMBE: Honiton Art Society Meeting at Awliscombe Village Hall, 2-4pm. Demonstration by Colin Brown, Seaside and People in Acrylics. New members and visitors very welcome. Visitors £2

MONDAY JANUARY 12th – SUN FEBRUARY 1st

AXMINSTER: Once again the Axminster Arts Cafe is hosting a display of the winning entries of the Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Entitled 'Peace, Love & Understanding', this is the contest theme for the 27th competition; with some very creative & thought-provoking posters this year by students aged between 11-13 years old. The posters are judged on the artistic interpretation of the theme, together with the young person's quote on peace. They have been selected from Schools and Youth Groups from across the south west. Axminster Arts Cafe, The Old Courthouse, Church Street, EX13 5AQ. 01297 631455 Opening hours Tues – Fri 9.00am – 2.00pm; Sat + Mon 9.00 – 12.00

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14th

COLYFORD: Axe Valley Centre National Trust. Talk by David Cox on 'Butterflies and their lifestyles' (il-

VIEW FROM the beehive

Happy New Year from the Beehive

WHAT a wondrous 2014 it's been for the Beehive, we were all pretty exhausted after the final run up to Xmas because it had been so very busy. The Christmas Party was fantastic, a sell out success and even better because we had a wonderful team of young volunteers from the Community college who waited tables and helped with the dishes, which gave our volunteers the opportunity to party! Many thanks to them and to all of our terrific volunteers, they really are the lifeblood of the Beehive and what a team they are!

With New Year's resolutions in mind, please think about signing up to help out here, it's a great way of meeting other friendly folk, acquiring new skills or teaching others some of yours. We are a welcoming bunch and always very happy to receive help in whatever form, whether it be technical, marketing, poster & leaflet distribution, setting up for events, welcoming & stewarding for shows or serving in the café bar. Come along and see what you may like to do. Volunteering is very good for your wellbeing, its official!

It has been brilliant that so many people have come to Honiton's new venue, absolutely loved it and

brought their friends back for other events. We are seeing a lot of repeat business at the box office and the comments book is positively overflowing with glowing compliments, from how friendly the volunteers are, to how fabulous the food is and what a fantastic show they have just seen.

Our community classes and events continue to grow and offer an even more diverse selection of things to do. The New Year is a perfect time for resolving to get fit AND have fun, forget the gym, get on the dance floor, we have LeRoc modern Jive, Belly dancing, Line Dancing, Ballet for adults and children, along with Modern and Tap, there is also Salsa DX on Thursday mornings and Upbeat Street Dance, with a family 'jump in' for all ages, on Saturday 10th Jan. Our monthly Beehive Tea dances are proving increasingly popular, so do try the next one on Friday 9th January at 2pm.

A HUGE thank you to all who have supported the Beehive, we look forward to welcoming you back to our exciting events and classes in 2015 and wish you a very Happy New Year!

Pop Rock Choir starts in Axminster this month

LORRAYN de Peyer is the Musical Director of The Axminster Pop-Rock Choir; a specialised Jazz Vocalist of many years' experience and a Facilitator of Global Consciousness who teaches meditation and runs guided meditation groups and workshops in Axminster.

Lorrayn has lived and worked on four continents; she has performed regularly in The Savoy and London Hilton Hotels and Jazz Clubs in the UK, America and on the continent. Her exquisite music is a mix of jazz, soul and pop-rock and is a great accompaniment for your party, wedding, concert or function. Feel free to contact us for a quote.

In the Choir, everyone is welcome and no previous experience is required, just a desire to have fun and SING. Lorrayn has been the Musical Director of multiple Choirs; she also runs a large Pop-Rock Choir in Taunton and as part of her Choirs at Work Program runs choirs for large corporations in the South West. For details of any of the above visit the websites at www.thecouragetosing.co.uk and www.lorraynde-

peyer.com email info@thecouragetosing.co.uk or call 01297 639922.



■ Lorrayn de Peyer

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Diary Dates

illustrated) at Colyford Memorial Hall at 2.30pm. Non-members welcome (£1.50 including tea or coffee and biscuit).

COLYTON: 'Beer Quarry Caves' a talk to be given by John Scott (Beer Quarry Caves at 2.30pm in the Pavilion, Peace Memorial Playing Fields, Coly Road, EX24 5PU. All welcome, DA Members £1, non-members £3. Organised by the Devonshire Association (Axe Valley Branch), contact the Chairman, Dr David Westlake (01297 678529) for more information.

THURSDAY JANUARY 15th

SEATON: Seaton Knitting and Crochet group meets Thursdays at Pebbles Coffee House from 10-12. Come along and enjoy a coffee. Beginners welcome.

SATURDAY JANUARY 17th

UPLYME: Jumble Sale at Uplyme Village Hall, 2pm. In aid of Royal British Legion Women's Section. For more details call 01297 442435.

SUNDAY JANUARY 18th

SEATON: Bird ringing demonstration by the Axe Estuary Ringing Group. Please note, this event is subject to suitable conditions, and may be cancelled at very short notice. Meet at the Field studies base, Axe Estuary Wetlands. Parking through Seaton Cemetery. 9am onwards. Free.

MONDAY JANUARY 19th

AXMINSTER: Axminster Carnival Bingo at the Guildhall, doors 7pm, eyes down 8pm.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21st

SEATON: Seaton and District Men's Probus Club meeting at St. Gregory's Church Centre, Colyford Road, at 10am when the speaker will be Tony Simpson on 'Tunnellers of The Great War'. New members welcome (Keith West on 01297 624374). **SEATON:** Seaton Music Piano Competition at 6.30pm at Seaton Town Hall. Adjudicated by Sarah Beth Briggs. Winner will perform the following evening with Sarah. Tickets £5 in advance or on door.

THURSDAY JANUARY 22nd

SEATON: Seaton Music – Sarah Beth-Briggs playing piano. At 13 she was the youngest ever BBC Young Musician finalist. Also performance of young winner of piano competition which Sarah judged. At 7.30pm at Seaton Town Hall. Tickets £14, under 18s and full time students free, on the door or 01297 625699.

SEATON: Seaton Knitting and Crochet group meets Thursdays at Pebbles Coffee House from 10-12. Come along and enjoy a coffee. Beginners welcome.

MONDAY JANUARY 26th

AXMINSTER: Axminster Carnival Bingo at the Guildhall, doors 7pm, eyes down 8pm.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28th

UPLYME: Uplyme & Lyme Regis Horticultural Society January Meeting, Alice Holden runs a small team growing organic food on a two acre site in Dagenham, east of London, and will be telling us how it was set up on a derelict industrial site and now runs successfully. The talk title is "Grown in Dagenham". 7.30pm at Uplyme Village Hall.

THURSDAY JANUARY 29th

SEATON: Seaton Knitting and Crochet group meets Thursdays at Pebbles Coffee House from 10-12. Come along and enjoy a coffee. Beginners welcome.

SATURDAY JANUARY 31st

SEATON: Meet the Birds – improve your birdwatching skills with an experienced volunteer guide in the hide. At Tower Hide, Axe Estuary Wetlands. Parking through Seaton cemetery. 9am–11am. Free.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 2nd

AXMINSTER: Axminster Carnival Bingo at the Guildhall, doors 7pm, eyes down 8pm.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4th

SEATON: Seaton and District Men's Probus Club meeting at St. Gregory's Church Centre, Colyford Road, at 10am when the speaker will be Doug Hislop on 'Archaeology'. New members welcome (Keith West on 01297 624374).

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4th – SATURDAY 7th

ILMINSTER: 'Hay Fever' by Noel Coward at The Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster 7.30pm. Tel 07943 770990 or thewarehousetheatre.org.uk. Tickets £7, £8, £9

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7th

HONITON: Tommaso Starace in concert. A wonderful opportunity to experience the music of brilliant Italian saxophonist Tommaso Starace and his band (piano, bass and drums, set against the stunning photographs of Gianni Berengo Gardin. At the Beehive, 7.30pm. Tickets: adults £8, child £6, family £25. From The Beehive on 01404 384050 or from www.beehivehoniton.co.uk. Licensed Café Bar. Tea and coffee available. A Villages in Action event.

Top local youngsters compete at inaugural Seaton piano event

A COMPETITION will be held for six young pianists in The Gateway, Seaton Town Hall on Wednesday, January 21st 2015 at 6.30pm promoted by SeatonMusic.

This is an inaugural event set up in memory of Elizabeth Rolt, the redoubtable club secretary in the 1980s and 90s who worked tirelessly to win support for, and to promote, classical chamber music performances in Seaton. She died in 2013 and the rose bowl she received when she retired will be the trophy for the winner with £70.00. The runner up will receive £30.00.

The chief adjudicator will be Sarah Beth Briggs who first played in Seaton at the age of 13 years, soon after she had become the youngest finalist in the BBC Young Musician competition, she has gone on to a celebrated career as a concert pianist. The other two on the panel will be Peter Lea-Cox & Iain McDonald, well-known local musicians.

The six finalists are between the ages of 13 and 18 years. Joseph Devine from Bridport, Harry Eastwood from Charmouth, Annabel Howitt from Seaton, William Kerr from West Hill, Jesse Wilson from Whimble and Joe Yuan from Axminster.

They will each play a 15 minute programme of their own choice on SeatonMusic's Steinway piano. The winner is scheduled to play again in Sarah Beth Briggs' concert on January 22nd.

Sponsorship has been given by the Joanna Leach Foundation, created in

the memory of an outstanding pianist to foster, support, promote and encourage all aspects of music be it professional or amateur.

SeatonMusic invites anyone who wishes to be part of this exciting event to come to Seaton Town Hall at 6.30 pm on January 21st. Student admission is free, adults £5.00. SeatonMusic has plans to run another competition in three years time and will commit to promoting the winner in anyway that is mutually beneficial.



■ **HARRY EASTWOOD** a late applicant for the piano competition is in year 12 at Woodroffe He plays classical piano and has recently taken grade VII, he is a member of the Woodroffe Jazz band.

SINGERS NEEDED FOR MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH

A RARE opportunity to sing in one of the best loved choral masterpieces is coming up this month. Mendelssohn's *Elijah* combines high drama with glorious music, and is perhaps in some ways the most rewarding of all the great oratorios for the choral singer to be involved in.

Seaton Choral Society holds its first rehearsal of *Elijah* on Wednesday, January 7th at Seaton Methodist Church, starting at 7.30 pm, and singers of all voices will be warmly welcomed. Music will be provided and those who miss the first rehearsal can come on Wednesday, January 14th and still catch up! Those who do not read music will get all the help they need - early rehearsals give plenty of time to get to know the music, and some members practice during the week with the help of CDs or specially designed audio aids available on the internet.

The musical director, Dr Peter Milmer, is a fine musician who is both understand-

ing and fun to work with, while the superb piano accompanist is Michèle Banting. Last autumn these two successfully guided the society through Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* to a fine performance in December. There is more for the chorus to do in *Elijah*, which is in some ways easier to sing, although its emotional impact is as strong. The performance of *Elijah* will be on Saturday, May 9th 2015 at 'The Gateway' Seaton.

For further details, please contact the secretary, Jo Mason, on 01297 579906.



Dr Peter Milmer

Southern Tenant Folk Union come to the Marine Theatre

ONE of the most highly acclaimed folk/bluegrass bands in the UK today, Southern Tenant Folk Union are about to release their sixth album (*The Chuck Norris Project*) and since starting out in 2006, have toured their exciting live show all over the UK, Ireland, Netherlands and Germany, and are heading to Lyme Regis in early 2015.

A six piece all acoustic band with banjo, mandolin, fiddle and harmony vocals, they perform an eclectic mix of high energy atmospheric folk and have received airplay from Bob Harris and Steve Lamacq on BBC Radio 2. Live appearances include BBC One TV (The Andrew Marr Show), RTE TV (The Late Late Show) & Radio 4's Loose Ends. Artistically successful, award winning and with an exciting live act worked around a single microphone, they have performed at Celtic Connections, Orkney Folk Festival, Belladrum and The Electric Picnic and now sellout arts centres across Europe.

Southern Tenant Folk Union play at the Marine Theatre on Friday, January 30th, doors open 7.15pm, with music from 8pm. Tickets are £13.50 or £12.50 concessions, and a TheatreFriends discount is available. For more details or to book visit www.marinetheatre.com or call 01297 442138

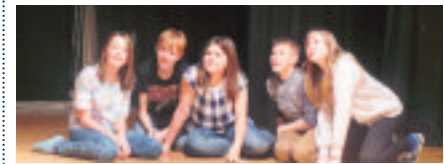
PUSSIN BOOTS WILL SOON BE HERE

THIS year's Axminster Drama Club Pantomime is *Puss In Boots*, a rags to riches story involving cats, cows and sausages but not necessarily in that order. The cast this year sees talented professional actor Tucker Stephens in his first dame role in Axminster as Dame Dolly Mixture supported by "old stagers" Caroline Markham and Eileen Stuart as her new shop assistants, Kerry Cable as her son Ben and a newcomer to the club Grant Jones as the butcher's boy.

In addition there are a number of familiar faces in other supporting roles, including Mel Ayres as Puss himself, and a talented and lively cast of over 40 youngsters, though not appearing all at the same time as this year the juniors are divided into three separate teams.

This year's director is Jack Price who is supported by the usual team of talented scenery painters, costume makers and stage crew to name but a few so it looks like another colourful and enjoyable Axminster Pantomime will be on offer.

Performance dates are Thursday 15th to Saturday, January 17th with a matinee on the Saturday. Tickets are now on sale at Archway Bookshop, Church Street, Axminster with reductions for all tickets purchased in advance of each performance.



COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PIANISTS



**At The Gateway, Seaton Town Hall
Wednesday 21 January 2015, 6.30pm
Students free, adults £5.**

**In Memory of Elizabeth Rolt. Promoted by Seaton Music.
Sponsored by the Joanna Leach Foundation.**

**Finalists are: Joseph Devine, Harry Eastwood, Annabel Howitt,
William Kerr, Jesse Wilson and Joe Yuan.**



AXMINSTER DRAMA CLUB
Presents at the Guildhall, Axminster

**PUSS IN BOOTS
THE PANTO**



**The Purrrfect
Family Pantomime**

Written By Paula Smith
Directed By Jack Price

**Thursday 15th, Friday 16th January at 7:30pm.
Saturday 17th January at 2:30pm & 7:30pm**



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from Late December 2014

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LOCAL INQUIRY
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 SECTION 53
Notice is hereby given that an Inspector will be appointed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to determine Devon County Council (Footpaths No. 8, Northleigh, No. 3 Farway, No. 6 Colyton and No. 10, Southleigh) Definitive Map Modification Order 2013 and will attend at:
Northleigh Village Hall, Northleigh, Colyton, Devon, EX24 6BJ
On Wednesday 11 February 2015 at 10.00 am
To hold a public local inquiry into the Order
The effect of the Order, if confirmed without modifications will be to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by deleting from them:
Footpath No. 8, Northleigh from Woodbridge Lane south-west of the village of Northleigh (GR SY 1888 9533) east-south-eastward across three fields to the Farway parish boundary on the River Coly north-east of Perryhill Farm (GR SY 1914 9524);
Footpath No. 3, Farway from the Farway parish boundary on the River Coly (GR SY 1914 9524) east-south-eastward across two fields to the Colyton parish boundary on the River Coly south of Farview Farm (GR SY 1955 9508);
Footpath No. 6, Colyton from the Farway parish boundary on the River Coly (GR SY 1955 9508) east-south-eastward across four fields, then north-eastward for 50 metres across one field to the county road immediately south of Stubby Bridge (GR SY 2046 9501), continuing from the county road immediately north of Stubby Bridge (GR SY 2046 9504), east-north-eastward across two fields to the Southleigh parish boundary on the River Coly south-east of Farwood Barton (GR SY 2070 9512), then from the parish boundary south west of Road Pitt Farm (GR SY 2112 9518) east-south-eastward to the county road immediately south of Brinkley Bridge (GR SY 2134 951); and
Footpath No. 10, Southleigh: from the Colyton parish boundary on the River Coly south-east of Farwood Barton (GR SY 2070 9512) eastward across two fields to the same parish boundary on the River Coly south west of Road Pitt Farm (GR SY 2112 9518).
Any person wishing to view the statements of case and other documents relating to this Order may do so by appointment at the offices of Colyton Parish Council, Town Hall, Market Place, Colyton between 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and the offices of Devon County Council, Public Rights of Way Section, ABG Lacombe House, County Hall, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4QD between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. from Monday to Friday. To make an appointment to view at the Devon County Council offices, please contact Mr Nick Steenman-Clark on Telephone Number 01392 382856.
Planning Inspectorate Reference: FPS/11155/7/106
Contact point at the Planning Inspectorate: Helen Sparks, Rights of Way Section, Room 3/25, Hawk Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN. Tel: 0303 444 5646 Email: helen.sparks@pins.gov.uk

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NEW - FULL TIME LEGAL SECRETARY

Axminster office – a new position is available for an experienced secretary in the property department. You should have excellent communication skills, work well with clients and be a good team player. Salary is negotiable dependent on experience.

Please send your c.v and covering letter by post or email to:
Mrs Rachel Rattenbury,
Law Chambers, Silver Street, Axminster.
Tel Number: 01297 630700
Email: rr@bevissandbeckingsale.co.uk
www.bevissandbeckingsale.co.uk

COURTESY CARE

Courtesy Care are looking to expand their team of community support workers in Axminster

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Full training will be provided with the potential for a career development up to NVQ 5 or to specialise in certain areas.

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So, if you are the kind of person who enjoys being part of a team, providing excellent customer service and is motivated by working for a Charity, please apply now!

For more information and to apply, please visit www.hospiscare.co.uk
CVs will not be considered.
Closing date: Noon on Monday, 19th January 2015.
Interview date: Friday, 30th January 2015.
Hospiscare promotes equal opportunities for all and welcomes applications from all sections of the community regardless of sex and disability. Registered charity no: 287798.

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The Governors are looking to appoint an enthusiastic Teaching Assistant to work in KS2 class at All Saints CE Primary School, Monday to Friday mornings. The school has 103 pupils and is part of the Ark Federation. We wish to appoint someone who shares our Christian ethos, are passion for learning and understands the importance of creating a safe and secure learning environment. The ideal candidate would have some previous experience of working in KS2 and be ambitious about their career.

Please visit <http://www.devonjobs.gov.uk> to download the application pack. Your completed application form should be returned to
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The post requires flexibility and a Saturday morning rota. No previous applicants need apply.

For an application form, please contact: Mr Michael Thoenissen or Mr Joel Seward on 01297 32002.

Closing date for receipt of applications 13th January 2015.
Interviews to be held 19th January 2015.

dragonflies

Part time Play Assistant required to work in a busy Preschool.

Relevant qualification preferred at Level 2 or above. Approx. 10.5 hours per week, term time, Additional hours may be required. For an application form email:
dragonflies@stmarysaxminster.devon.sch.uk
Or call 01297 639329 9-1pm Monday – Friday
Closing date for applications: 16/01/15
Enhanced DBS and References will be taken up for the successful applicant

The Ship Inn
Axmouth

WANTED:
PART TIME KITCHEN PORTER
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Must be hard working and a team player.
Please ring Graham on 01297 21838

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Axminster Hospital Action Group

Save our HOSPITAL BEDS



This is how Pulman's View reported the story last year

Choosing Axminster or Seaton is JUST WRONG!

We believe that the proposal by the NDHT to temporarily close either Axminster or Seaton hospital inpatient beds is wrong. At a time when additional inpatient and nursing home beds across the NEW Devon area are being commissioned by the CCG to meet the winter crisis it is perverse to reduce bed numbers in either town now.

You claim that the reason for consolidation is lack of resilience in the staffing of both hospitals and that the only way to provide safe cover is to combine staff in one place.

We totally reject that premise because even with our limited resources we have been able to identify another local provider of agency staff who is able to produce whatever additional numbers you may feel are required.

Further, in the consultation held on December 29th, you confirmed that although the potential safe staffing issue at both Axminster and Seaton was identified in May, no special measures were put in place or a plan developed to try to recruit more staff for these facilities beyond placing two advertisements on the NHS Jobs website.

You had considered placing ads in local papers but the cost was apparently prohibitive. We consider that this is not a response from a trust that

This is the full text of the submission made to Dr Alison Diamond, Chief Executive of North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust from Axminster Hospital Action Group

says it is concerned with the need for safe staffing levels.

Eighteen months ago you identified that providing staff at outlying hospitals such as Axminster and Seaton was potentially problematic and made a decision to 'temporarily' reduce bed numbers from 18 to 10 in both hospitals until such times as you were able to find adequate staff.

Effect on staff moral

We see no evidence to show that you have tried to implement a plan to recruit more full-time staff for either hospital over and above simply placing those advertisements. We challenge you to demonstrate that at a time when you have been running at a budget surplus that you have committed the resources necessary to find and retain the staffing levels you say are now necessary for both hospitals.

Your 'temporary' reduction in bed numbers already carried out and the uncertainty created by your announcement to close Axminster has had a marked affect on staff morale. As a result Axminster

■ TURN TO PAGE 22



October 7th 2014



October 28th 2014



December 23rd 2014



January 7th 2014



January 21st 2014



April 8th 2014



June 24th 2014



January 7th 2014

Four page supplement on the fight to Save Axminster Hospital

Axminster Hospital Action Group

Save our

HOSPITAL BEDS

Is there a 'hidden agenda' to close much needed facility?

■ FROM PAGE 21

ster staff have been actively seeking new positions. You also stopped advertising full-time posts at Axminster six months ago. In spite of this hostile manning climate that you have created both hospitals continue to function safely even though there is an increased reliance on agency staff.

We do not see that with some additional detailed management of staffing both hospitals should not remain safe for patients through the winter crisis period. There is no evidence that a safety tipping point has been reached where patients have been placed at risk. In your response to specific questions during the consultation period you confirm that the situation is currently safe for patients. Surely now with increased focus by you in this area that situation can be maintained until the CCG make their decision on the long term position of both facilities?

However, could it be that there is a hidden agenda here whereby you are attempting to close the much valued and necessary community facility here in Axminster? We believe that unless you can show that you have exhausted every avenue to specifically recruit sufficient staff required to return Axminster to the bed numbers that existed before your last round of 'temporary' reductions that the only conclusion to be drawn is that you have deliberately engineered that situation for your own reasons that we believe are contrary to the needs of our communities. Why for instance have you not established a peripatetic pool of nurses? We know of nurses who used to work for the Devon Bank, who would have worked in Axminster but could not get work there when the old bank system stopped and have therefore found work elsewhere (Chard).

In your consultation document you claim you have not ruled this out but the key question is why have you not already taken action to do this. Your inaction reflects an obvious prejudgment by the Trust to close Axminster with no meaningful attempt to be fair.

Medical cover by doctors is every bit as important as nursing care. Currently Seaton and Axminster doctors cover their own patients in both hospitals. In Axminster this consists of daily visits including week-ends and Bank Holidays from either their own GP or another from the practice. In Seaton the GPs provide cover Monday to Friday. Both hospitals use DDOC doctors for 'Out Of Hours' emergency cover. This situation will change should Axminster patients go to Seaton and

the precise nature of the cover is unclear. This is yet another reason why we believe it is essential that you keep inpatient beds at both Seaton and Axminster.

The staffing at both hospitals was satisfactory up until September this year but the uncertainty over the position of Axminster led to a dramatic change in staff morale and commitment. However this has not affected the staffing fill rates significantly for either Axminster or Seaton even though we acknowledge that this may, at present, be attained through agency staffing. This may not address the total lone working issue but shows that staffing rates are able to be maintained and as such there should be nurses available to fulfill the needs to support both hospitals to maintain the status quo until the CCG has declared its long term intentions.

Public opinion in both communities demonstrates solidarity and commitment to the community hospital. The passion and dedication shown throughout this consultation process in both localities should not be brushed aside as a low level consideration

ation. Feedback from those of the community that have attended the consultation meetings has shown that they do not feel that they have been listened to and that you, the NDHT, are just going through a process to get what you want. These thoughts have been exacerbated throughout the period with an unwillingness to discuss the options of maintaining both hospitals and firm rebuttals when questioned about detail regarding acuity and staffing.

It is our opinion that you are exaggerating the safety issue to drive consolidation with no evidence that lone working is a real problem. Consultation through the Community Hospitals Association shows that lone working (1 RGN plus 2 N/A) at night is common place. The ratio of trained staff to patients is often 1-10 beds night. Other times it is 1-8 at best. In addition we have established that there are as yet no guidelines issued by NICE regarding lone working in community hospitals.

Any plan that avoids the 'temporary' closure of Axminster must be affordable. On December 29th consultation you volunteered that the delay to implementation of the bed closures at Axminster meant that what may have been considered unaffordable back in November may be affordable today as bed closures would now happen mid-January at the earliest. The 'temporary' closure period

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



■ FLASHBACK TO OCTOBER: Axminster Guildhall is packed for the public meeting to listen to NHS plans to close in-patient beds with another 300 protesters locked out

The relentless logic of decline

Open letter to the Board of the North Devon Heath Trust on behalf of Lyme Forward

ON January 7th the North Devon Heath Trust (NDHT) will decide on the "temporary" transfer of inpatient beds from Axminster Hospital to the community hospital at Seaton. For the foreseeable future this will mean that patients from the Lyme Regis area will no longer find a hospital bed on their doorstep.

The transfer has been described as "temporary" but there's little doubt that it's being seen as a permanent solution to staffing shortages and mounting Agency costs at small hospitals such as Axminster and Seaton.

But recent history teaches us something about the relentless logic of decline. Any hospital which loses its inpatient beds immediately becomes more vulnerable to further cuts and "rationalisations". Until 2012 Axminster Hospital had 18 beds. This was cut to just 10 beds by 2013. Now they say it's too small and costly to be viable. By the end of January, Axminster may have no beds at all.

We have not arrived at this sorry state by accident – but by design. Axminster Hospital is the victim of successive reductions to beds

in community hospitals. The paradox is that whilst North Devon Health Trust is busily cutting bed numbers in its hospitals, other local health chiefs are desperately trying to buy more beds in the private sector to help ease winter pressures. You couldn't make it up.

Given the age profile and vulnerability of our local population, and imminent council cuts to social care budgets, this is not the time to consider reducing or removing beds from a busy, well-used community hospital. The recruitment of nursing staff is a national problem to be sure but the Trust has made the local task so much harder by creating uncertainty around Axminster's future. Who would want to work for an organisation actively planning to close its major services?

So, what's the alternative? We have asked the North Devon Health Trust to halt the process of decline in its community hospitals and retain the inpatient unit at Axminster Hospital. For patients in and around Lyme Regis, a community hospital should be precisely that – a local place, with beds for local people, when they need them.

Julie Sheppard
Lyme Forward

Lyme Regis Local Area Partnership

Axminster Hospital Action Group

Save our

HOSPITAL BEDS



Harness public support in positive manner ...but don't dismiss it!

■ FROM PAGE 22

would therefore probably only be about 14 weeks. Therefore, an option now to keep both Axminster and Seaton open until the CCG makes its decision which would necessitate having two qualified staff on duty 24/7 even though only 10 beds would be operational at each hospital. This would be supported now by you using more agency staff.

You claim that you had only been made aware of the Axminster League of Friends' offer of financial support on December 12th and that, had you been made aware earlier, you would certainly have considered accepting some of the money on offer to increase agency staff to provide two registered nurses on duty at any one time until the CCG made its decision. This is your Consultation Option 3 and we urge you to adopt this now as your preferred option.

We believe that this is a situation of your own making and reflects very poor management of recruitment and retention and a lack of urgency to address problems effectively by NDHT management. We have nonetheless presented above a feasible option that costs the trust nothing in additional staff costs and avoids moving vulnerable patients at a time when they need stability of care provision and retains community inpatient beds at both towns until the CCG decision is made. Should you however decide in spite of the arguments presented above to adopt Option 3 to keep bed numbers the same, but increase staffing to two registered nurses we believe that the decision to choose to consolidate at Seaton is perverse for the following reasons:

Facilities

THE upgraded in-patient facility at Axminster Community Hospital is capable of accepting 20 beds without additional resources. Seaton is being positioned as capable of accepting just 18 beds with some refurbishment required.

The facilities at Axminster Hospital are superior to those at Seaton – see Matron Janet Mackay's report.

The on-site facilities of X-ray, physiotherapy and mental health are readily available at Axminster to support the in-patient bed requirements. Should there be a call for these services through Seaton then all patients will need to be transported to Axminster with accompanying staff.

The extensive out-patient clinics offer further support to the hospital in general with a weekly visit from a consultant physician who supports the in-patient ward. Another physician also attends Seaton but does not support the in-patient beds. In Axminster, due to the propensity of other specialist

clinics inpatients can often be seen for concurrent problems without the need to travel to Exeter or another hospital.

Extensive parking is available on the Axminster site with additional space available through a public car park only 50 metres along the road on the same side as the hospital. The Seaton car park has only 50 per cent of the available space of Axminster with no additional parking available in the residential area surrounding the hospital.

Closing beds in Axminster leaves an active day surgery, X-ray, physio and out patient clinic unit. Closing beds in Seaton leaves a small physio dept and one out patient clinic a week. Should this make any difference to the decision as to which to close if the closure is, as you claim, only temporary?

Staff Availability

THE data on your website does not support the statements you have been making throughout the consultation period. You have been expressing the concerns regarding the availability of qualified staff (RGN). We have heard your concerns regarding the use of agency staff however this is still a sustainable position whilst long term plans are put in place.

Your data shows that for the period from August to November this year (2014) Axminster Community Hospital had a fill rate of over 100 per cent for both day and night shifts. Seaton on the other hand shows fill rates as low as 84 per cent on certain day shifts.

This would steer the option towards Axminster as, based on the NDHT data, the staffing levels achieved are already higher in Axminster than Seaton.

Clinical Need

WE reject the clinical need as a legitimate differentiator between the two hospitals of Axminster and Seaton. Whilst some data will show an enhanced clinical need for Seaton versus Axminster, the needs across the communities remains much the same.

NDHT's assessment of need looks at 'Dr Foster data', which is not really supposed to be used in this way. The CCG have used data which reflects disease incidence in the populations served by Axminster and Seaton Hospitals. But in the case of Axminster the CCG have chosen to ignore the disease incidence of West Dorset, which is in the catchment area of Axminster Hospital.

The CCG are due to represent their data shortly, with updated figures. Measuring 'need' for hospital beds is an unclear science but is probably better done by looking at occupancy rates. As described



■ SUCH was the interest into the first public meeting that hundreds were locked out of the Guildhall. The parish church was used as an overflow venue for the second meeting

in the NDHT consultation document this shows occupancy of around 83 per cent in 2013 with 18 beds and 86 per vcent now with 10 beds. 85 per cent is the agreed target occupancy. So occupancy was good in 2013 and it is good now in Axminster.

We therefore do not believe acuity figures should sway the decision either way except to show that both Axminster and Seaton Hospitals require more than 10 beds each.

Public Opinion

THE public support for its community hospitals will be robust throughout the locality. However from the numbers who have attended the public meetings concerning the future of Axminster hospital and the 6,820 signatures on the petition to oppose the changes proposed it is clear that this is seen as a major issue in this town. Harness this support in a positive manner will only help in the future. Dismissing the community and its passion will not.

IN SUMMARY therefore we strongly urge you to delay closing inpatient beds at either Seaton or Axminster until a long term decision has been made by the NEW Devon CCG. During this time we support continuing the safe staffing levels we have at present. If you consider these inadequate we would ask you to be more pro-active and take positive management action to staff both Seaton and Axminster.

We, in Axminster, would help support this both financially and physically by providing funds for the staff required and help restarting the old Local Bank nurse system to cover say Axminster, Seaton and also perhaps Sidmouth. We would hope that Seaton may well offer the same level of support if it were presented with this proposal. If against all of the evidence presented you still insist in closing beds in either Axminster or Seaton then Axminster should be the preferred choice to remain a centre of excellence with a full complement of 20 beds.

“ We believe that the consultation has been neither fair nor truly consultative and has not fully considered the communities and their needs. We have given you options that would retain at the very least the status quo until the longer term strategies are in place. It would be inconsiderate to take any action that would prejudice future decisions in any way. ”

Axminster Hospital Action Group

Save our HOSPITAL BEDS



Our hospital provides the highest level of care

Consultation Response from Axminster Practice Participation Group

THE PPG members, both in our virtual and core groups numbering approximately 35 people, have spoken to many members within our community and have come together to give you our view on your proposal to temporarily transfer eight beds from Axminster to Seaton.

We understand and respect your concerns about patient safety in your hospitals and can see that from a Barnstaple perspective, being cared for in Seaton Hospital doesn't seem very different from being in Axminster. We expect that you may have been surprised that more than 6,000 people have signed a petition telling you that we don't agree.

To us, being in a bed in Axminster Hospital means that our friends and family can visit us easily. Many of them do not have private transport and public transport to Seaton is irregular and inconvenient. We also believe that our hospital is a centre of excellence with facilities,

services and general level of comfort that are found in few such hospitals and certainly not in Seaton.

Medical cover by doctors is every bit as important as nursing care as far as we are concerned. Currently, Seaton and Axminster doctors cover their own patients in both hospitals. In Axminster this consists of daily visits including week-ends and Bank Holidays from either their own GP or another from the Axminster Practice. In Seaton the GPs provide cover Monday to Friday. Both hospitals use DDOC doctors for 'Out of Hours' emergency cover. The continuity provided by our own GPs looking after us in Axminster Hospital is very important and could be lost in a move to Seaton.

Living in a community far from our nearest large hospital means that we cannot easily access the services of a larger hospital. Community hospitals exist to mitigate this disadvantage. When we are admitted to Axminster Hospital we choose to accept a different level of care than that which would be provided in RD&E or NDHT's main hospitals. We expect

that you select patients to enable this to be safe. We know for example that there are no resident doctors and that out of hours a doctor may be many miles away. In the same way we should be entitled to accept that nursing levels may be lower, although still safe. If there have been recent examples which show that current staffing is unsafe then we ask you to share them as part of your consultation.

Very unsettling period

It is ironic that the recommendations for larger hospitals of the Francis report might cause the beds in Axminster to be transferred since we can assure you that Axminster has always provided care which goes far beyond what is aspired to in the recommendations. We could not imagine a hospital with a better, kinder approach to patients for which of course we have to thank the staff who have continued to provide the highest levels of care throughout what must have been for them a very unsettling period.

We urge you therefore not to allow a rigid approach to nursing staffing levels to close the

beds in our much loved hospital. Indeed, we are surprised that you are still proposing such a traumatic move for vulnerable patients to cover a perceived gap over such a relatively short period – perhaps less than four months until the PPG makes its long term decision on the future of both hospitals. That decision could see you moving patients back again to Axminster with yet more unnecessary cost and disruption to staff and patients.

We could perhaps understand you doing this if you were considering a much longer period but to take such drastic action for such a short period seems to make no sense whatsoever, especially as we believe that your Consultation Option 3 is entirely feasible and would be supported financially by the Axminster Hospital League of Friends if that was what was needed to sway your decision.

We would therefore ask you to keep bed numbers the same at both Axminster and Seaton, but increase staffing to two registered nurses on duty at any one time until the CCG decision has been made.

League of Friends: Closing beds is 'going in the wrong direction'

Axminster Hospital League of Friends response to the NDHT Consultation

THE League of Friends of Axminster Hospital has represented the community in supporting Axminster Community Hospital for many years. The reputation of the hospital is magnificent with many commendations from past and recent patients, commenting on the level of care given by both the nursing staff and the GPs who regularly visit during their stay in the hospital. The familiarity of knowing that you are in local surroundings must release stress and thereby aid recovery.

The closure of the in-patient beds at Axminster, albeit temporary in your documentation and communication, is the wrong direction for ensuring the best level of care is given to the people of Axminster and the surrounding parishes.

This does not imply that Seaton Hospital should lose its beds to Axminster but that this short-sighted view of the community will lead to increased issues regarding bed availability, across the whole locality, in the future.

We fully understand your stance regarding lone working and would not wish to support a solution that affects staff or patient safety in any way.

Our reasons for stating that the decision is the wrong direction are:

Occupancy Rates and Bed Blocking - Data is available showing that there are more patients requiring discharge from RD&E than there are beds available. On average, looking at just the over 80 year olds awaiting discharge from the RD&E, there have been six each day for the last 12 months from the Axminster region and nine from the Seaton region. Your own data shows that with 18 beds there was an average occupancy of 83 per cent, with 12 beds occupancy rose to 87 per cent and at 10 beds occupancy is 91 per cent. Good practice would suggest that an occupancy rate of around 85 per cent would allow for some contingency and also aid the reduction of the burden on the RD&E. Extrapolating your data would show

that the optimum number of beds would be between 15 and 16. This then would be ideal for a two shift system thereby eradicating the lone working issue. Your management stated in December 2014 that patients were unable to be released from the RD&E due to bed unavailability.

Bed reduction Numbers - You have stated on numerous occasions that you are applying this temporary move in the direction of the TCS proposal from the NEW Devon CCG. This document does propose the move from Axminster to Seaton and is based on a bed population increase to 24. You are taking the current bed population across the two hospitals of 20 and reducing this to 18 with no hard evidence to show how you will cater for the already insufficient needs. Over the last two years you have reduced the bed numbers from 18 to 12 and now 10. This has surely gone too far as stated in 1 above, there are patients tied up in the RD&E with no beds available in either Axminster or Seaton.

Therefore with the information in both 1 and 2 above, Option 2, "Increase bed numbers to 18 at both hospitals and increase nurse staffing to ensure no lone-working" of your consultation document would need to be followed.

Provision of support from the League - As a League we have provided names of volunteers who are willing to support the hospital in its current state until the final decision has been made by the CCG in the first quarter of 2015. Your feedback is that they cannot be volunteers and need to be employed. This is another barrier to maintaining the status quo. The league has also offered significant funds to support in this staffing issue.

Insufficient effort on recruitment - You have quoted staffing and recruitment as one of the main issues driving the change. Two people on the community have contacted agencies who would be more than willing to supply to the NHS but at pres-

ent do not do so. When asked if they could provide cover of say three months night working, they were told categorically that this is the type of employment their agency staff are looking for. As such we do not feel that every avenue has been explored fully to avoid the disruption you are planning to cause.

The nursing staff are not as happy as you say - Many members of the League are close to many of the nurses. You are quoting nurses as being happy with the changes and seeing it as an opportunity to do something different. Unfortunately, we cannot name the nurses, but can state that it is the majority, who are extremely unhappy with the change. The reason for not naming them is that they are frightened of losing their jobs should their names come to the fore.

Underutilisation of an updated facility - The League made an investment just five years ago to improve the in-patient facility, to the tune of some £2-2.5million. You are talking about having to invest in another hospital to bring their facilities up to scratch when the Axminster facility is already available to accept a 20 bed facility.

Working on the wrong data - The demographic data supplied by the CCG in September has been challenged and found to be inadequate and as such they are revisiting their proposals. It does not make good business sense to follow a path rigidly when the core driver of the initial change is having doubt regarding the decision. Surely the correct decision is to manage any risk through alternative methods until the final decision has been made.

This has not come across as a true consultation - As a community we are entirely in the hands of the commissioners and the service providers regarding the provision of healthcare. However as tax payers we are as much your paymasters as anyone else and as such should therefore have a sig-

nificant voice in decisions being made. From the consultation events in December, the posting of the comments made at these events has been very slow, there has not been a conciliatory approach of listening but every opportunity taken by NDHT staff to rebut any comment made by a member of the public. Requested information promised one week has not been forthcoming and in many cases needed to be requested the following week. In the case of staffing levels at both hospitals, this request was made over three times and the individual has again responded to you (NDHT) in writing requesting that you fulfil your commitment to answer fully, his question.

Consolidate around your centre of excellence - If there is to be consolidation and it is to be Seaton or Axminster then the best business option would be to consolidate around your centre of excellence. The report from Janet McKay and statements from others clearly shows that with the extensive out-patients clinics, mental health, physiotherapy, X-ray and ultrasound,

Axminster would be considered the centre of excellence with Seaton having very little if not none of the extra facilities. A further reason for using Axminster is that it would easily take the 20 beds without any further change (structural changes for facilities needed at Seaton to accommodate 18 beds) thereby maintaining at the very least the status quo regarding bed numbers.

As a group we are unanimous in our support of Option 3 within the NDHT consultation document "Keep bed numbers the same, but increase staffing to two registered nurses on duty at any one time". Your comments state all the reasons why not and nothing as to why this options would benefit especially while the CCG deliberate on the longer term.

We trust that you will raise these issues with your board on January 7th 2015 giving full consideration to the strength of feeling and support within the community.

Four page supplement on the fight to Save Axminster Hospital

Pulman's Property View

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SEATON £625 PCM



A SPACIOUS, UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM MAISONETTE IN CONVENIENT LOCATION. PROPERTY CONSISTS: LOUNGE; FITTED KITCHEN / DINER; TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS; BATHROOM; GCH; DOUBLE GLAZING; ALLOCATED PARKING SPACE; EPC RATING: D; SORRY NO PETS.



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High Street, Honiton £550pcm



Spacious 2 bed maisonette occupying 1st and 2nd floor in ideal High street location. This period property offers many original features and comprises: 2 double bedrooms, fitted kitchen/breakfast room, large living room, bathroom, FGCH, secondary glazing. Conditions: No DSS or smokers. This property is not suitable for children or pets.

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Clapper Lane, Honiton, £975pcm



A very well presented family home offering 4 bed accommodation, walking distance from town centre. The property is presented in good decorative order throughout and comprises: 4 Bedrooms, fully fitted kitchen, cloakroom, family bathroom, enclosed rear garden, own driveway with gated entrance, FGCH, double glazed. No smokers, DSS or pets.

Pine Gardens, Honiton £530pcm



A well presented 2 bed flat on the 2nd floor of purpose built block situated within walking distance of town centre. 2 bedrooms, good size lounge/diner, f/f kitchen, modern bathroom, parking, communal gardens. Long let available immediately. No pets, children, smokers or DSS. EPC band D.

Winchester Park, Feniton: £825pcm



A superb brand new property in the superior Winchester Park development is now available for long term rental. This fine traditional style family home offers spacious 3 bedroom accommodation in delightful semi rural location and comprises: 3 good size bedrooms with en-suite to main bedroom, modern contemporary kitchen/family room, guest cloakroom, full gas central heating, enclosed rear garden, garage and additional parking. Conditions: No Pets, smokers or DSS.



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COLYFORD £425,000



A handsome well proportioned period cottage with surprisingly spacious living accommodation, 4 bedroom, 2 en-suite, dual aspect lounge, kitchen breakfast room and galleried dining room. Delightful, mature gardens with 2 garages and additional parking. Located in a sought after village location. EPC Rating E.

BEER £479,000 FREEHOLD



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SEATON £339,950



A beautifully presented two bedroom detached bungalow with views towards the sea and Axe Cliff. The current owners have renovated this property to a high standard including new boiler, plumbing, electrics and uPVC double glazing. Located in a sought after elevated location this property must be viewed to be fully appreciated. EPC rating D.

BEER £395,000



Beautifully presented 3 bedroom, character cottage in the picturesque village of Beer with many original period features. The property benefits from an updated kitchen, bathroom and shower room and has lovely views over the village. EPC Rating F.

BEER £355,000



The Old Lace Shop is located in Fore Street in the heart of this historic village. The cottage has the benefit of a beautiful kitchen, good sized rear courtyard. Originally three bedrooms it has been converted to two bedrooms but could easily be re-instated if desired. EPC Rating F.

SEATON £375,000



Impressive, detached, 5 bedroom 1930's family house with lovely mature gardens situated in an elevated location with lovely sea and distant countryside views, within easy reach of town and seafront. EPC rating D.

AXMOUTH £328,500



This charming detached property dates back to circa 1700 - 1750. Once two cottages the building is now all one and has been restored to a high standard by the owners keeping many original features. The cottage benefits from a very pretty terraced garden and off road parking. EPC rating E.

MUSBURY £325,000



Pretty character detached, thatched 2 bedroom cottage situated in a peaceful edge of village location. The cottage has many character features such as the lovely inglenook fireplace in the lounge. The property also benefits from cottage gardens and parking.



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NEW INSTRUCTION

Awaiting EPC

£265,000

Three bedroom, two reception room detached house which has been recently modernised by the current owner. Newly fitted kitchen. Bathroom. Newly fitted Boiler. Garage and off street parking. Front and rear gardens.

Beer

EPC E

£375,000

This beautifully presented home is situated in the heart of the picturesque village of Beer and is currently a very successful holiday let. Ideal for a business opportunity or as a second home.

Seaton

EPC D

£330,000

Situated close to Seaton Town Centre this detached property comprises three bedrooms, lounge, dining room, kitchen and needs to be seen to truly appreciate the accommodation on offer.

The Esplanade

EPC C

£285,000

If you're looking for sea views then look no further. This terraced property is situated on Seaton's esplanade and enjoys stunning panoramic views of the sea and Beer Head.

Seaton

NEW INSTRUCTION

Awaiting EPC

£345,000

Four bedrooms, four en-suites, mid-terraced house, constructed in approximately 1878 and features two reception rooms. Currently run as a B&B. Small front garden. Large rear patio with storage shed.

Seaton

EPC C

£185,000

Situated a short walk from the town centre, this first floor apartment is ideal for buyers looking for ease of maintenance while being close to the local amenities.

Seaton

EPC C

£160,000

Located close to the seaford, this two bedroom house has light and airy accommodation and benefits from a balcony and secure parking. The property is beautifully presented.

Beer

Awaiting EPC

£650,000

Architect designed four bedroom, four reception room detached property with annex potential having been greatly improved in recent years to include newly fitted kitchen/breakfast room.

Seaton

EPC B

£130,000

Recently modernised by the current owners this immaculately presented apartment is perfect for anyone looking for ease of maintenance. Situated close to Seaton Town Centre.

Beer Road

EPC B

£90,000

Well presented, two bedroom retirement apartment for the over 55s. The apartment has been well maintained by the current owner benefiting from a modern shower room and a fitted kitchen.

Seaton

EPC D

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This well presented one bedroom retirement apartment really is a must see. Situated on the first floor, the property has been well maintained by the current owner.

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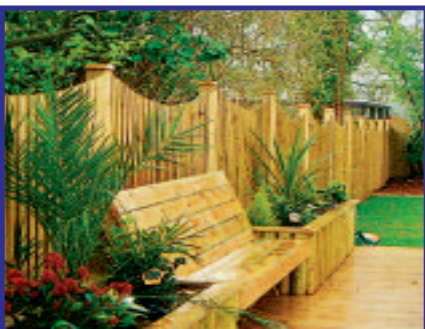
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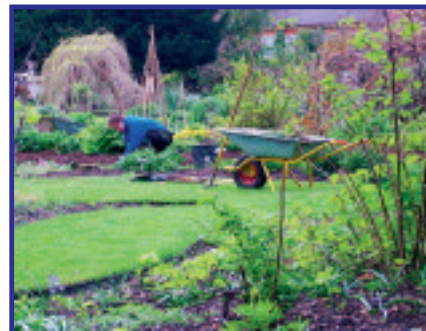
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2015 Mazda Cx-5 – Upgraded Standard Equipment



▲ 2015 Mazda CX-5, EU Spec

THE 2015 Mazda CX-5 upgraded model goes on sale in the UK in spring this year. Priced from £22,295 to £30,595 on-the-road (OTR), the 16-strong model range features significant interior trim and standard equipment specification upgrades, as well as exterior enhancements.

The 2015 Mazda CX-5 model range is available in three grades; SE-L, SE-L Lux and Sport Nav. The range comprises three 2.0 litre petrol two-wheel drive variants equipped with six-speed manual transmissions, and thirteen 2.2 litre diesel versions – six of which are available with all-wheel

drive – fitted with a choice of six speed manual or automatic transmissions.

'No other vehicle in the Mazda range demonstrates the value of SKYACTIV technology more clearly than the Mazda CX-5' commented Mazda UK Sales Director, Peter Allibon. 'It has allowed the company to build a Compact SUV that delivers outstanding fuel economy and low CO2 emissions without compromising either performance or driving dynamics. And now, for 2015, significant enhancements and standard equipment upgrades make the Mazda CX-5 more price-competitive

than ever before.'

The standard equipment specification of every model in the CX-5 line-up has been enhanced through the addition of manual front passenger seat height adjustment, an electronic parking brake, a coming/leaving home headlamp function, and the company's Multimedia Commander with separate volume dial for safe, intuitive interactivity and infotainment control.

A new 7-inch, full-colour, centre console touch-screen incorporates DAB radio, two ports for USB connectivity and MZD Connect. Paired with a smartphone, MZD Connect makes it easier to take advantage of functions such as internet connectivity and access to social networking services.

Top-of-the-range Sport Nav models benefit from new exterior features including 19-inch Gunmetal alloy wheels, LED headlamps including LED daytime running lights, and LED foglamps.

On board, an already comprehensive Sport Nav standard equipment specification is further bolstered by a new Integrated Navigation system which offers greater accuracy, improved search features and three years of free map updating.

SE-L Lux and Sport Nav grade options now include Stone Leather upholstery (in lieu of black), whilst the Sport Nav options list further benefits from Mazda Radar Cruise Control, and an evolution of the

Safety Pack which incorporates several newly-developed technologies.

Adaptive LED headlamps (ALH) automatically adjust the array of high beam illumination to avoid dazzling the occupants of both oncoming and preceding vehicles, without the need to switch to low beam lighting.

The Lane-keep Assist System (LAS) with Driver Attention Alert (DAA) builds on the existing Lane Departure Warning system, providing steering wheel vibration and assisted steering if the driver strays from the middle of the chosen lane. Having first learned the owners driving style, DAA operates at speeds of over 40mph, alerting

drivers to take a break if it detects a degradation in driving style indicating fatigue.

Advanced Blind-Spot Monitoring with Rear Cross-Traffic Alert (BSMw/RCTA) combines two systems in one for greater safety. The system's larger detection area to the side and rear of the vehicle provides better coverage, whilst BSM employs the same system sensors to detect pedestrians, bicycles and other vehicles when reversing.

Rear Smart City Brake Support (RrSCBS) operates at speeds of between 2 and 5mph when reversing, automatically applying the brakes if the system detects an imminent rear impact.



▲ 2015 Mazda CX-5, EU Spec

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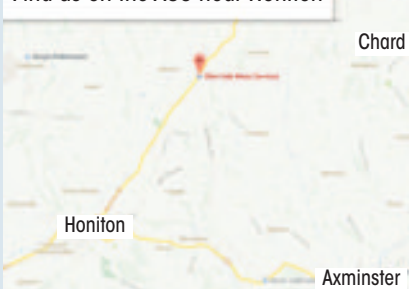
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Gallopston Utd.	20	42
Applcombe	17	37
St Martins	18	32
Tavistock	16	31
Brixham AFC	20	31
Exeter University	14	30
Alphington	27	27
Okehampton Argyle	19	25
Liverton Utd.	21	24
Totnes & Dartington	27	23
SIDMOUTH TOWN	21	23
Budleigh Salterton	19	21
Newton Abbot Spurs	20	20
Credition Utd.	18	19
Plymstock Utd.	17	19
Exwick Villa	17	12
AXMINSTER TOWN	16	10

D&E Premier	Pld	Pts
Tiverton Town Res	13	36
Heavitree Utd.	14	34
Sidbury Utd.	13	25
Wetheridge Res	17	23
Topsham Town	12	22
Feniton	10	22
Hatherleigh Town	10	22
Thorverton	12	20
Elmore Res	18	18
Chard Town Res.	13	16
Beer Albion	13	15
Exeter University Res	12	12
Bow AAC	13	11
Seaton Town	15	10
Willand Rovers Res.	14	9
Budleigh Salterton	17	1

D&E Division One	Pld	Pts
Honiton Town	12	34
Newton St Cyres	11	27
Exeter University 3rds	11	24
Wetheridge Res	13	21
Lympstone	14	18
Exmouth Amateurs	12	17
East Budleigh	16	16
Exwick Villa Res.	7	15
Clyst Valley	13	14
Westex Rovers	13	14
Wellington Town Res	12	13
Alphington Res	11	12
Bickleigh	10	7
Heavitree Utd Res	13	3

D&E Division Two	Pld	Pts
Colyton	16	39
Exeter University 4ths	13	34
Upottery	10	27
Cullumpton Rangers Res	13	27
Sidmouth Town Res.	11	26*
Newbury	15	25
Chumleigh	13	21
Hemyock	11	16
Halwill	16	16
Credition Utd Res.	15	14
Dawlish Utd.	12	13
Culm Utd.	12	11
Tipton St John	12	7
Topsham Town Res.	15	7
Newton Poppleford	14	4

D&E Division Three	Pld	Pts
Exmouth Town Res.	15	33
Lyme Regis	14	30
Henry's Cronies	11	26
Woodbury	12	26
Exeter University 5ths	12	25
Chagford	14	22
Clyst Valley Res.	16	19
Chertion Fitzpaine	15	18
Tedburn St Mary	10	14
Axmouth Utd.	12	13
Thorverton Res	13	12
Exmouth Amateurs Res.	16	11
Axminster Town Res.	16	10
Pinhoe	16	9

D&E Division Four	Pld	Pts
Countess Wear Dynamos	15	29
Morchard Bishop	14	28
St Martins Res	11	27
Okehampton Argyle Res	13	27
Langdon	11	25
Lapford	11	24
Bampton	14	23
Bow AAC Res	12	16
Lords Xd	12	16
Amory Park Rangers	10	14
Westex Rovers Res.	15	11*
North Tawton	14	10
Awliscombe Utd.	14	8
Newtown 3rds	15	8*

D&E Division Five	Pld	Pts
Fluxton	12	29
Upplowman Athletic	13	28
Sandford	12	27
Orterton	16	26
Sampford Peverell	13	23
Feniton Res	14	21
Honiton Town Res	11	20
Halwill Res	12	15
Starcross Generals	11	13
Winkleigh	10	12
Hatherleigh Town Res	12	12
Priory	8	11
Stoke Hill	15	8
Ilminster Town Res	14	7

D&E Division Six	Pld	Pts
Ottery St Mary	14	40
Kentisbeare	13	31
Railway Club	14	23
Newton St Cyres Res	15	22
Alphington 3rds	10	21
Dunkeswell Rovers	14	20
Beer Albion Res	15	20
Exwick Village	12	18
Woodbury Res	12	18
Woolbury Res	10	17
East Budleigh Res	17	15
Bradinch	17	11
Langdon Res	12	9
Seaton Town Res.	15	4

D&E Division Seven	Pld	Pts
South Zeal Res	30	30
Whipton & Pinhoe	11	30
Hemyock Res	15	25
Winchester	8	21
Chertion Fitzpaine Res	11	20
Central FC	11	16
Elmore 3rds	11	15
Offwell Rangers	13	14
Pinhoe Res	13	14
Chagford Res	10	14
Alphington 4ths	13	13
Tivvy Park Rangers	8	11
Lympstone Res	12	7
Amory Green Rangers	11	0

D&E Division Eight	Pld	Pts
Culm Utd Res	11	33
St Martins 3rds	15	32*
Wellington Town 3rds	13	30
Colyton Res	14	26
Sidmouth Town 3rds	14	17
Ottery St Mary Res	16	17
Open Space International	8	14
Bampton Res	13	13
Sandford Res	13	12
Lapford Res	10	11
Bickleigh Res	9	10
Mortonhamstead Res	14	10
Tedburn St Mary Res	12	8
Feniton 3rds	14	8

Local football round-up

Wasteful Sidmouth Town hit for six

Axminster beaten on travels as duo head back to Chard Town

SOUTH-WEST PENINSULA LEAGUE DIVISION ONE (EAST)

ST MARTINS 6 SIDMOUTH TOWN 0
THE Minster Park pitch was in remarkably good condition especially considering the weather and the large number of postponements elsewhere.

This also boosted the gate with several neighbouring clubs players, officials and supporters boosting the crowd to 108.

Sidmouth were buoyed by the inclusion of Cameron Vere who has spent the last two seasons gaining success at Exmouth Town.

The Vikings were quick out of the traps with Jake Boydland and Mark Pavey causing the home side all sorts of problems with their clever wing play.

They carved out three gilt edged chances that really should have been taken.

But having dominated the first 25 minutes Sidmouth were made to pay for their missed chances when Dax Vincent fired home a low shot from the edge of the box.

The lead was doubled on the stroke of half time when Keeper Charlie Ledger parried a Ben Smith shot from the edge of the area and Joey Hawes fired the rebound into the top corner.

The second half saw the hosts, who climbed up to fourth in the table with this win, establish a firm grip on the contest with Kevin Pike firing in low down four minutes after the re-start.

Then two goals in the space of three minutes just after the hour mark made the scoreline convincing with Hawes netting his second and then Pike following suit to make it 5-0 after 63 minutes.

The scoring was completed with still a quarter of the contest remaining with Hawes claiming his hat-trick with a 20 yarder that beat the outstretched Ledger.

Sidmouth: Ledger, Cox, Colson, Vere, Newbery, Doble, Armes, Pavey, Boydland, Small, French. Used Subs: Pidgeon, Parr, Kana'ah. Unused Sub Miller.

Teignmouth 3 Axminster Town 1

THE ongoing issues at their new and as yet unused ground forced Axminster Town, on the insistence of South West Peninsula League officials, to switch Saturday's fixture to opponents' Teignmouth's Coombe Lane Ground.

Ax joint-manager Keith Somers was however far from pleased, he said: "It should never have been played - it was like a bog!"

The Tigers, with the recalled Danny Galloway in fine form in the midfield engine-room, matched their hosts until some dozy defending saw them troop off 1-0 down at the interval.

The introduction of joint-manager Pete Knox gave the visitors more firepower after the restart. But despite being on top Ax conceded again due to some slacking marking at a set piece.

Somers then introduced teenager Liam Barribal from the bench. And the youngster, a new signing from Seaton Town, was soon in the action setting up Sam Dibling to smash home his sixth goal of the season.

But the result was secured when the

Tigers got caught chasing an equaliser and the Teigns added a third on the break.

"It's a very flattering result for them - we showed a vast improvement on recent weeks," said Somers.

Somers also confirmed to *View Sport* that defender Gary Warren and goalkeeper Scott Wells-Burr have returned to their previous club Chard Town.

"It's disappointing as both recently told me how much they were enjoying things at the club", said Somers who was however impressed with the efforts of Brett Garner between the sticks.

◆ There was more disruption for Axminster Town at the weekend with the news that Reserve team manager Keith Taylor has resigned form the role after just ten games.

D&E LEAGUE REPORTS

BEER ALBION RESERVES 2

EAST BUDLEIGH RESERVES 0

BEER Albion Reserves bounced back from a heavy defeat last week at Newton St Cyres with a comfortable 2-0 home win against East Budleigh Reserves.

This was only the Fishermen's second win in the last nine matches but it enabled them to move up three places to seventh position in the Division Six table.

Beer started the game brightly and dominated possession throughout a one-sided first half.

he visitors however fought a brave rear-guard action until the 37th minute when Adam Brewer scored after good work down the left by Jack White and Callum Gribble. Gribble's shot was only half-cleared and Brewer was on-hand to slot the ball home from close range.

The visitors came close to equalising at the start of the second period when a speculative lob hit the crossbar but apart from that it was one-way traffic.

Budleigh were only kept in the game by their veteran centre-back who broke up most of Beer's attacks and by their keeper who made several fine saves.

Just as the home side were beginning to get frustrated at their inability to convert their possession into goals, up popped centre back Robert Adkin with a late header from a Matt Smith free kick to seal the three points for the Albion.

Round-up with Collin Goodwin

THE bad weather was the overall winner at the weekend with over 40 games rained off, but 17 matches survived.

Among those the stars of the show emerged as lowly SANDFORD RESERVES.

Sitting just one spot off the bottom rung in Division Eight they came up with a stunning 2-0 victory at second from top ST MARTINS THIRDS.

Ryan Keyte had both goals for Sandford and manager Keith Baker reported that all the players bar one were genuine second teamers.

In the other match in the division SIDMOUTH TOWN 3RDS and WELLINGTON TOWN 3RDS shared a 3-3 draw.

TOPSHAM TOWN staged the only Premier game beating SEATON TOWN 7-2 to climb to fifth. There were doubles from Jordan Bastin, Nathan Cooper and Kieran Barbieri while Russell Brooker completing the scoring.

WESTEXE ROVERS shocked EAST BUDLEIGH 3-1 in Division Two with Jamie Phillips scoring twice and Neil Wilkinson once.

EXMOUTH AMATEURS beat rock bottom HEAVITREE 2NDS 3-0 in the other match played, Matt Cousins, a Si Withers penalty and Jamie Williams sharing the honours.

COLYTON went five points clear at the opt of Division Two after their 5-0 win at NEWTON POPPLEFORD.

Callum Somers and Erich Busby both scored twice, James Salter once.

DAWLISH UNITED completed the double against TIPTON ST JOHN on Friday evening at Coach Road Newton Abbot where they won 1-0 thanks to a Martin Burley free kick and a star showing from their goalkeeper Tom Morgan who made some great stops including one astonishing save while falling flat on his back.

CHAGFORD went on a Division Three goal spree winning 9-3 at PINHOE with Josh and Tom Stanbury both scoring hat-tricks. Singles came from Andrew Davis, Robbie Miller and Euan Stone.

NEWTOWN beat Division Four basement rivals AWLISCOMBE 3-0 thanks to an Adam Smith hat-trick, but remain bottom as the Awls have the better goal difference.

FLUXTON rose to the top of Division Five for the first time thanks to a 9-1 battering of HATHERLEIGH TOWN.

Hayden Figures hit four goals, Alex Paget a hat-trick and Si Durrant and Matt Clothier-Smith completed the scoring.

OTTERY ST MARY are now nine points ahead of the chasing pack in Division Six after they saw off LANGDON 6-2.

Adam Harris (3), Jonny Beer, Connor Swinger and Jordan Rogers scored the Otters' goals.

Second placed KENTISBEARE were held 2-2 draw by a strong ALPHINGTON.

The Kents were two up at half time through Chris Hawkins and Tom Beddow.

The RAILWAY CLUB won 2-0 at BRADNINCH thanks to goals from their oldest and youngest players, Leigh Atkins and Bailey Jason-Ryan.

In Division Seven WHIPTON & PINHOE beat CHERITON FITZPATRINE 5-1 with Ryan Crocker scoring twice. Clay Grimes, Jason Al-Makrani and Mike Hughes netted singles.

TIVVY PARK RANGERS drew 2-2 at CENTRAL in just their eighth league game. Shane and Darren Heale were the Tivvy scorers.

RESULTS

FRESHA DEVON & EXETER

PREMIER

Topsham Town 7, Seaton Town 2.

DIVISION ONE

East Budleigh 1, Westex Res 3.

Exmouth Amat 3, Heavitree Utd 0.

DIVISION TWO

Newton Poppleford 0, Colyton 5.

DIVISION THREE

Pinhoe 3, Chagford 9.

DIVISION FOUR

Newtown 3, Awliscombe Utd 0.

DIVISION FIVE

Fluxton 9, Hatherleigh Town 1.

DIVISION SIX

Alphington 2, Kentisbeare 2.

Beer Albion 2, East Budleigh 0.

Bradinch 0, Railway Club 2.

Ottery St Mary 6, Langdon 2.

DIVISION SEVEN

Central 2, Tivvy Park Rangers 2.

Whipton & Pinhoe 5, Ch Fitzpaine 1.

DIVISION EIGHT

Sidmouth Tn 3, Wellington Tn 3.

St Martins 0, Sandford 2.

FIXTURES

FRESHA DEVON & EXETER

(2.15 pm, unless stated)

PREMIER

Beer Albion v Topsham Tn.

Bud Salterton v Hatherleigh (3.0).

Chard Tn v Bow AAC (3.0).

Feniton v Heavitree Utd.

Sidbury Utd v Elmore.

Thorverton v Willand Rov.

Tiverton Tn v Newtown (3.0).

DIVISION ONE

Exmouth Amateurs v Bickleigh.

Exwick Villa v Honiton Tn.

Heavitree Utd v Wellington Tn.

Lympstone v Westex Res.

Newton St Cyres v Alphington.

Wetheridge v Clyst Valley.

DIVISION TWO

Colyton v Credition Utd.

Cullumpton Rgs v Sidmouth Tn.

Halwill v Culm Utd.

Newtown v Dawlish Utd.

Tipton St John v Newton Poppleford.

Topsham Tn v Upottery.

University v Chumleigh.

DIVISION THREE

Chagford v Exmouth Amateurs.

Clyst Valley v Axmouth Utd.

Exmouth Tn v Woodbury.

Henry's Cronies v Thorverton.

Lyme Regis v Pinhoe.

Tedbury St Mary v Ch Fitzpaine.

DIVISION FOUR

Amory Park Rgs v Bampton.

Awliscombe Utd v Okehampton Arg.

Bow AAC v Morchard Bishop.

Countess Wear Dyn v Langdon.

Lord's v Lapford.

St Martins v Newtown.

Westex Res v North Tawton.

DIVISION FIVE

Fluxton v Ilminster Tn.

Hatherleigh Tn v Otterton.

Honiton Tn v Halwill.

Priory v Feniton.

Sandford v Starcross Generals.

Upplowman Ath v Sampford Peverell.

Winkleigh v Stoke Hill.

DIVISION SIX

Bradinch v East Budleigh.

Exwick Village v Beer Albion.

Kentisbeare v Alphington.

Newton St Cyres v Langdon.

Railway Club v Dunkeswell Rov.

Silverton v Ottery St Mary.

Woodbury v Seaton Tn.

DIVISION SEVEN

Alphington v Amory Green Rov.

Cheriton Fitzpaine v Pinhoe.

Elmore v Lympstone.

Hemyock v Whipton & Pinhoe.

Offwell Rgs v Central.

Tivvy Park Rgs v South Zeal Utd.

Winchester v Chagford.

DIVISION EIGHT

Bickleigh v Colyton.

Culm Utd v Open Space Inter.

Lapford v Feniton.

Mortonhamstead v Sidmouth Tn.

Ottery St Mary v Bampton.

St Martins v Tedburn St Mary.

bowls news

Happy to help

OTTERY ST MARY with Bridget Hallowes

REPRESENTATIVES from the Devon Air Ambulance and Honiton Hospiscare Support Group attended Ottery St Mary Short Mat Bowls Club recently to receive cheques on behalf of their Charities.

The Club chairman Ron Berry presented £400 to Don Hansford on behalf of DEVON AIR AMBULANCE and £1,300 to Mary Bolshaw and Sue Gibson on behalf of the EAST DEVON HOSPICE DAY CENTRE appeal.

These were the proceeds of the Bowls Club's Annual Charity Bowling Competitions held in October and November.

The bowls club is open on Monday nights from 7pm to 10pm and Wednesday mornings 10am to 12 noon, if you are interested come and see if Short Mat Bowling is for you, new members are always welcome, you are never too young or old to give it a try.



◆ **THANK YOU:** Line-up from left to right; David Nangle, Mary Bolshaw, Ron Berry, Don Hansford, Sue Gibson. Treasurer, Hospiscare, Chairman, Air Ambulance, Hospiscare.

cribbage round-up

HONITON

Results: Blacksmith Arms 3 Feniton Soc B 5, Feniton Soc A 3 Honiton Inn B 5, Honiton Inn A 6 New Fountain 2, London Hotel 2 Vine Inn A 6, Vine Inn B 5 Workingmens B 3, Workingmens A 3 Thirsty Farmer 5.

Captains Cup: Brian Morrison 1, Audrey Hawkins 0, Hedley Hawkins 0, Julie Davis 1, Julie Bath 0, Rita Freemantle 1, Lorraine White 0, Brenda Flood 1, Mike Dent 0, Lionel Hawkins 1, Steve Pettitt 1, Maureen Pendrick 0.

Fixtures (January 8th): Feniton Soc B v Workingmens A, Honiton Inn B v London Hotel, New Fountain v Blacksmith Arms, Thirsty Farmer v Feniton Soc A, Vine Inn B v Honiton Inn A, Workingmens B v Vine Inn A.

Table	Pld	Pts
Thirsty Farmer	15	66
Feniton Social B	15	64
Vine Inn A	15	64
Workingmens A	15	63
Blacksmiths Arms	15	62
Honiton Inn B	15	62
Feniton Social A	15	59
Workingmens B	15	59
Honiton Inn A	15	57
Vine Inn B	15	55
New Fountain	15	55
London Hotel	15	54

Captains Cup	Pld	Pts
R.Freemantle	15	10
B.Flood	15	10
J.Bath	15	9
L.Hawkins	15	9
B.Morrison	15	9
A.Hawkins	15	7
J.Davis	15	7
M.Dent	15	7
H.Hawkins	15	6
L.White	15	6
M.Pendrick	15	5
S.Pettitt	15	5

LYME REGIS

Results: Cloakham Lawns 2 Ship Inn LR 3, Gerrard Arms 3 Talbot Arms 2, Lamb Swans 3 Nags Head LR 2, Old Inn Kilmington 1 New Inn Kilmington 4, Royal Oak 5 Stepps 0, Axminster Con Club 1 Beer Club 4.

Beer League: Cloakham Lawns 1 Ship Inn LR 2, Gerrard Arms 1 Talbot Arms 2, Lamb Swans 2 Nags Head LR 1, Old Inn Kilmington 2 New Inn Kilmington 1, Royal Oak 2 Stepps 1, Axminster Con Club 0 Beer Club 3.

Fixtures (January 5th): Talbot Arms v Lamb Swans, Nags Head LR v Old Inn Kilmington, New Inn Kilmington v Royal Oak, Beer Club v Cloakham Lawns, Ship Inn LR v Gerrard Arms, Stepps v Axminster Con Club.

Table - week 15	Pld	Pts
New Inn Kilmington	15	47
Beer Club	15	42
Lamb Swans	15	40
Axminster Con Club	15	39
Nags Head LR	15	39
Royal Oak	15	37
Ship Inn LR	15	36
Talbot Arms	15	35
Gerrard Arms	15	35
Old Inn Kilmington	15	34
Stepps	15	33
Cloakham Lawns	15	28

Beer League	Pld	Pts
Old Inn Kilmington	15	27
Ship Inn LR	15	26
Lamb Swans	15	25
Stepps	15	24
Talbot Arms	15	23
New Inn Kilmington	15	23
Royal Oak	14	21
Nags Head LR	15	21
Gerrard Arms	15	21
Axminster Con Club	15	20
Cloakham Lawns	15	19
Beer Club	14	18

running axe valley runners

Carol flies Devon flag in Denmark

WITH DAVE MUTTER

NEW Year's morning saw the fifth running of the CHARD FLYER, a 10k road and track race in and around Chard.

A damp and blustery day saw 135 runners shrugging off their hangovers, including five AVR's. Philip Bridge from Wells City won in a tidy 36:48 over the moderately hilly course.

Dominic Schneiders was pleased to get round unscathed after over two years out of racing 23rd in 44:10.

Eleanor Wood put in another consistent perform-

ance coming 32nd, 46:05. Not far behind her was Karen Eyre in 46:57. Margaret Pearce was 53rd, 49:36 and Chris Hill finished strongly taking 54:19.

On Sunday the three Smith children took part in the SOUTH WEST CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS at Bicton College. Caitlin was first off and finished in the main pack of the U13 girls' race on a difficult, hilly course.

Molly then finished a very strong fourth overall in the U15 girls race and in the penultimate race

of the day, Jake finished sixth overall in the U17 boys race. Each of them thoroughly enjoyed their race and the family had a great day.

Carol Austin visited Copenhagen for New Year and as you do on holiday ran the park run in AMAGER FAELLED PARK.

Sadly Lesley Adams hadn't shaken off her Christmas lurgy or she would also have run too.

Carol was 18th, second lady, first in age group taking 23:35; an excellent effort for her first race after three months out with a hip injury.

skittles around the leagues

AXMINSTER LEAGUE

Men's Ellis Shield Round One

Ax Inn B 169 (D Thomas 37) v Thorncombe B 202 (K Fursman 42) Tuckers B v New Inn Hawks (NOT PLAYED Away Win) Seaton BC 177 (D Millard 48) v Old Hawk IV 172 (J Mitcham 43) George @ Lamb 204 (P Herrod 51) v Wootton Sherberts 170 (J Chapman 39) Kings Arms Seaton v Gerrard C (NOT PLAYED Away Win) B & Gs 330 (M Enticott 66) v Cloakham Stars 242 (D Baker 59) New Inn C v PJs Social (NOT PLAYED home win) Colcombe Nomads 193 (P Tolchard 40) v Lamb Spartans 248 (G Hayball, S Dickson 53) Ship Rotary 251 (S Dunn 52) v Colcombe B 245 (P Wyatt 51) Gerrard B 240 (J Salter 55) v Gerrard D 244 (J Parkhouse 46) Ax Con A 174 (A Thomas 41) v Thorncombe Drifters 228 (C Wyatt 49) Hawk Halfcuts 277 (N Herrod 56) v Old Hawk A 207 (C Churchill 48) The Feds 271 (P Squire 59) v Red Devils 325 (R Summers 65) Old Kilm A 272 (N Cornelius 52) v Tuckers C 218 Lamb 49rs v Red Lion D (NOT PLAYED Away Win) W H Wilm A 308 (P Jeffery 65) v Lamb A 278 (G Smith 67) Thorncombe A 260 (M Stead 51) v Wootton Cowboys 295 (S Forsey 67) Thorncombe C 264 (C Upham 54) v Ax Con Rebels 282 (P Pomeroy 64) Red Lion B 300 v Red Lion C 240 King Wingers 221 v Old Inn Kilm B 194 Sidmouth Arms 280 v Green Army 239 Colcombe A 249 v W H Warriors 190.

Division One Pld Pts
Red Lion RD.....13 26
Thorn Drifters.....13 20
B & Gs.....13 14
Ax Con Reb.....13 14
Lamb Spartans.....13 14
Sidmouth Arms.....13 14
Lamb A.....13 14
Thorncombe B.....13 14
The Feds.....13 12
Green Army.....13 10
Colcombe A.....13 8
Red Lion D.....13 8
Gerrard A.....12 6
Old Inn Kilm A.....12 6

Division Two Pld Pts
WH Wilm A.....12 19
Tuckers C.....12 18
Axe Inn Jokers.....13 17
Hawk Halfcuts.....13 16
Tuckers B.....13 16
Thorncombe A.....13 14
Gerrard D.....13 14
Red Lion C.....13 10
Ax Con Club B.....13 10
New Inn Kilm A.....13 10
Cloakham Stars.....12 10
Thorncombe C.....13 9
Old Inn Kilm B.....13 8
Kings Arms A.....11 7

Division Three Pld Pts
Woot Cowboys.....12 22
Tuckers Maggots.....13 18
New Inn Kilm C.....13 18
Gerrard B.....12 18
Axminster Inn B.....13 16
Old Inn Hawk A.....12 14
Red Lion B.....13 14
Axe Con Club A.....13 14
WH Warriors.....13 10
Colcombe B.....12 8
Tuckers Y.....12 8
Old Inn Hawk IV.....12 6
The Bottle.....13 6
The George.....13 4

Division Four Pld Pts
Lamb 49rs.....11 20
Axminster Inn A.....12 19
King Wingers.....11 16
Gerrard C.....11 16
Wootton Sherb.....11 15
Ship Rotary.....12 12
Colcombe Nom.....12 12
Seaton BC A.....12 8
PJs Social Club.....11 8
Bev's Boys.....9 6
New Inn Hawks.....11 6
Kingfisher A.....11 6
Winston Wobb.....12 2

Ellis Shield is Tuesday, January 20th NOT Wednesday 20th as printed in the fixtures book.

Division One Pld Pts
Red Lion RD.....13 26
Thorn Drifters.....13 20
B & Gs.....13 14
Ax Con Reb.....13 14
Lamb Spartans.....13 14
Sidmouth Arms.....13 14
Lamb A.....13 14
Thorncombe B.....13 14
The Feds.....13 12
Green Army.....13 10
Colcombe A.....13 8
Red Lion D.....13 8
Gerrard A.....12 6
Old Inn Kilm A.....12 6

Division Two Pld Pts
WH Wilm A.....12 19
Tuckers C.....12 18
Axe Inn Jokers.....13 17
Hawk Halfcuts.....13 16
Tuckers B.....13 16
Thorncombe A.....13 14
Gerrard D.....13 14
Red Lion C.....13 10
Ax Con Club B.....13 10
New Inn Kilm A.....13 10
Cloakham Stars.....12 10
Thorncombe C.....13 9
Old Inn Kilm B.....13 8
Kings Arms A.....11 7

Division Three Pld Pts
Woot Cowboys.....12 22
Tuckers Maggots.....13 18
New Inn Kilm C.....13 18
Gerrard B.....12 18
Axminster Inn B.....13 16
Old Inn Hawk A.....12 14
Red Lion B.....13 14
Axe Con Club A.....13 14
WH Warriors.....13 10
Colcombe B.....12 8
Tuckers Y.....12 8
Old Inn Hawk IV.....12 6
The Bottle.....13 6
The George.....13 4

Division Four Pld Pts
Lamb 49rs.....11 20
Axminster Inn A.....12 19
King Wingers.....11 16
Gerrard C.....11 16
Wootton Sherb.....11 15
Ship Rotary.....12 12
Colcombe Nom.....12 12
Seaton BC A.....12 8
PJs Social Club.....11 8
Bev's Boys.....9 6
New Inn Hawks.....11 6
Kingfisher A.....11 6
Winston Wobb.....12 2

Ladies League Division One Pld Pts

Axe Inn A.....10 16
Rousdon Ladies.....10 14
Wotnots.....8 12
B&Js.....10 12
Red Lion A.....10 10
Colcombe A.....10 8
Seaton BC.....9 8
Gerrard Guzzlers.....9 8
New Inn B.....10 8
Cloakham A.....10 4
Perfect Pins.....10 4

Division Two Pld Pts
New Inn A.....9 14
Tuckers Arms C.....9 31
Lamb A.....9 12
Kings Army Seaton.....11 51
PJs Social Club.....9 10
Old Inn Kilm.....9 8
Colcombe B.....9 8
Red Lion Rabble.....9 6
Tuckers Arms A.....9 6
Colcombe Angels.....9 2

Division Three Pld Pts
Thorncombe Newtops.....14 9
Colcombe Girls.....9 12
Tuckers Arms B.....8 10
WH Wilmington A.....9 10
Thorncombe A.....8 10
Cloakham C always.....9 8
Gerrard A.....8 6
Seaton FC Antics.....9 6
Seaton FC.....9 6
Axe Inn Allsorts.....8 4

HONITON LEAGUE

KO Trophy 2nd Round

Honiton Inn 413
Raiders 428, Three Tuns B 413 Woodpeckers 362, Three Tuns A 351 Tigers Volunteers 320, Vine Reds 410 Vine B 376, Tuckers A 345 Cricketers 370, Tuckers B 405 Scruffs 400, Drewe Arms 351 Blues 313, Allsorts 324 Volunteer 326.

Quarter-final draw: (to be played by February 28th) - Vine Reds v Volunteer, Three Tuns A v Raiders, Drewe Arms v Three Tuns B, Tuckers B v Cricketers.

COLYTON LEAGUE

Mike Sansom Nomination Trophy qualifying (top three to final).

VINE group: Phil Strawbridge (Tuckers

B) 58, Simon Land (Awliscombe Harts) 56, John Beaton (Sidbury Lions) 49, Graham Sweetland (Sidbury Stones) 45, Charlie Hutchings (Eagle Tavern) 28, Jenny Broom (Heathfield B) 20;

RISEING SUN group: Phil Norman (Hon Con B) 63, Graham Hart (Hon WMC B) 56, Andy Rose (Hon Converts) 51, Malcolm Wheaton (Hon Con D) 50, Dave Joslin (Hon Con Artists) 48, Dave Blackmore (Vine B) 45, Arron Deen (Hon Con BTP) 40, Bradley Spiller (Three Tuns Hammers) 40, Andy Doble (Heathfield A) 34;

GERRARD ARMS group: Andy Hurford (Kingfisher B) 53, B Pike (Colcombe A) 38, Bernie Webber (Ship C) 35, M Rowland (Kingfisher A) 25, Pat Nield (P J's) 23;

PJ's group: Roger Woolland (Ship B) 53, Kevin Cooke (Kings Arms A) 44, Lewis Jarman (Winstons A) 44, Bud Peach (Wheelwright A) 41, Steve Potter (Gerrard B) 41, Richard Turl (Seaton AFC A) 41, Steve Somers (Beer B) 41, Dave Park (Seaton AFC B) 30, Maurice Howe (Beer A) 21;

LAMB INN group: Tom Patch (Tuckers C) 56, Paul Miller (Cloakham B) 56, Martin Johnson (Gerrard A) 51, Alan Ostler (Cloakham C) 49, Neil Jones (New Inn A) 48, Martin Barnes (Cloakham Wanderers) 40;

◆ **The Final** is on Saturday, January 10th at the Colcombe Castle, 8.30pm start. Draw for Final: A Hurford, A Rose, B Pike, B Webber, G Hart, J Beaton, K Cooke, L Jarman, M Johnson, P

Miller, P Norman, P Strawbridge, R Wool- land, S Land, T Patch.

Division One Pld Pts
Gerrard A.....13 22
Cloakham B.....13 20
New Inn A.....13 20
Axe Con A.....13 17
Vine B.....13 16
Honiton Conv.....13 12
Red Lion Cavs.....13 12
Honiton Con D.....13 10
Hon WMC A.....13 10
Lamb A.....13 10
Lamb B.....13 10
Colyton Club A.....13 9
Colcombe A.....13 8
Red Lion A.....13 6

Division Two Pld Pts
Sidbury SC Stones.....12 20
Ship C.....12 16
Tuckers Arms B.....12 16
Volunteer A.....12 14
Beer sc B.....11 12
Cloakham Wand.....11 12
Eagle Tavern.....12 12
Seaton AFC A.....12 12
Vine A.....12 12
Winstons B.....12 10
Gerrard B.....12 8
M'batten Whites.....12 6
Wheelwright A.....12 4

Division Three Pld Pts
Colcom' Beerboys.....12 24
Beer Vikings.....12 14
Volunteer B.....11 13
Beer sc A.....12 13
Colcombe B.....12 13
Beer Albion.....11 12
Offwell A.....12 12
Cloakham C.....11 10
Three Tuns Hamm.....11 10
Sidbury SC A.....11 8
White Hart B.....11 8
Awliscombe Harts.....12 7
Sidbury Lions.....12 6

Division Four Pld Pts
Honiton Con BTP.....11 16
New Inn B.....11 14
Tuckers Arms A.....11 14
Honiton Con A.....11 12
Kingfisher A.....11 12
Seaton AFC B.....11 12
Rising Sun A.....11 11
Axe Inn A.....10 10
Tuckers Arms C.....11 9
Rising Sun B.....10 8
Honiton Con Art.....11 8
Kings Arms A.....11 4

Division Five Pld Pts
Honiton Con B.....12 22
Winstons A.....12 20
Heathfield A.....12 18
Hon WMC B.....12 16
Seaton Bowling.....12 13
Ship B S'munks.....10 12

Kingfisher B.....12 12
White Hart A.....12 11
Offwell Rejects.....11 10
Old Inn Kings.....11 8
Heathfield B.....12 6
Beer sc C.....12 2
PJs B.....12 2

EAST DEVON HUNT LEAGUE

Division One Pld Pts
Blacksmiths.....13 18
Culm Vale.....13 18
Marvels.....13 16
Night Owls.....12 14
Sidford.....12 14
Foxenhole.....13 14
Upottery.....13 13
Ur Arrs.....11 12
Auctioneers.....13 12
Zulu Warriors.....13 11
Breakaways.....13 10
Marsh Green.....13 9
Sutton Wand.....13 9
Stags.....13 8

Division Two Pld Pts
Talatun.....11 20
A Team.....11 16
Honiton Clyst.....10 12
Latecomers.....10 12
Tuckers Arms.....11 12
Cocks & Hens.....9 10
Perkins Village.....8 10
Broadclyst.....11 10
Jack's Lads.....11 10
Yoyo's.....10 8
Keepers.....11 6
Blackdown Boys.....8 4
Top Cats.....12 4

Division Three Pld Pts
Awlisc' Shoot.....9 16
Axe Valley.....9 16
Maynards.....10 14
Guys & Gals.....10 12
Goldtops.....9 10
Alley Cats.....11 10
Brooksiders.....8 8
Tale Nibs.....9 8
New Inn.....10 8
Yetties.....10 8
Bashers.....9 6
Cee Dee's.....11 6
Bakers 8.....8 2

Top Scores: Alan Maynard (Maynards) 93, Rob Wegner (Stags) 92, Mike O'Brian (Perkins Village) & Kevin Palfrey (Foxenhole) both 86, Jerry Cleverdon (Foxenhole), Marcus Pratt (Culm Vale) & Neil Farley (Zulu Warriors) all 81, Dave Youlenden (Marvels) 80.

rugby chard rfc

Late kick blow
for battling Chard

by Glyn Hughes

Chard 15 Oxford Harlequins 17

NATIONAL LEAGUE THREE (SOUTH WEST)

This was another outstanding game to watch if you were a neutral but it was a nightmare occasion for the home supporters who saw their team miss a penalty opportunity in the last few minutes which would have given their side a second win on the trot.

As it was Chard had to settle for just a losing bonus point as they were less than seven points between the sides at the finish

Chard won possession straight from the kick off and the forwards showed their intent by driving Oxford back to their own line.

The visitors were forced to give away a penalty which Mike Lawton successfully kicked to put Chard in front.

Within minutes the hosts had given up their advantage when, despite having several chances to clear their lines, they again were caught out trying to run the ball out of their own 22 metre area.

As has been the case so often this season they messed things up close to their line and from a resultant scrummage the big Oxford forwards drove Chard back over their own line for a try under the posts which was successfully converted.

The game was a ding-dong affair at this point and the Chard forwards were again showing their worth. The efforts of the forwards won a penalty but unfortunately Lawton pulled his effort wide.

Chard had another penalty awarded midway through the half and, although in a kickable position, the decision was taken to go for the corner and attempt to score from a planned set move.

The decision paid off as from the lineout Chard won clean ball and number eight Rob Burnell was driven over for a try which went unconverted.

Chard had now moved in to an 8-7 lead but this would not last long because the next time Oxford got into the home half an over eagerness to get the ball resulted in a penalty being given away and the kick was landed and the visitors led by two points at the break.

Oxford upped their game after the turn-around and were rewarded with a try from Huw Diamond which Sharratt again converted. Once again Chard again did not help their cause by some odd decision making deep in their own half which kept them under pressure.

But their defensive tackling was superb and some how or other Oxford were prevented from scoring several more tries.

Having withstood the onslaught Chard eventually got into opposition territory and, with probably one of their best handling movements of the season, the ball flew out wide and winger Ben Stead crossed for a fantastic try on the right which Lawton converted moving his team to within any score of victory.

With only minutes to go Chard were awarded a penalty in a straight forward position but it sailed wide of the posts and Oxford held on for a nail-biting win.

Once again so near but so far for Chard but the team played very well.

Johnson looks to have a lot of promise at scrum half, Stead is having an outstanding season, the forwards collectively are a strong unit and there were signs in the backs that things are picking up.

Next Saturday Chard probably face their toughest game of the season when they travel to play league leaders Redingsians.

Chard team: Harrison, Stead, Douglas, Helliari, Lawton, Twigg, Johnson, Parsons (capt) Wright, Burrell, Henley, Mortensen, Aplin, Robinson, Hyslop, Selway, Biss, Hayward.

horse racing wessex point-to-point

Your full 2015 list of meetings

ROYAL ARTILLERY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH. First race: 11.35am

LARKHILL, nr Amesbury, Wiltshire

Secretary: Mr A Connell. Telephone: 01980 662529

SOUTH DORSET

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST. First race: noon

MILBORNE ST ANDREW, nr Bere

Regis, Dorset

Secretary: Mrs K Davis. Telephone: 01258 817151

COMBINED SERVICES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH. First race: 11.30am

LARKHILL, nr Amesbury, Wiltshire

Secretary: Mrs M O'Hare. Telephone: 01980 655556

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE CLUB (WESSEX)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND. First race: noon

BADBURY RINGS, nr Wimborne, Dorset

Secretary: Mrs J Stockdale. Telephone: 01258 455412

QUANTOCK STAGHOUNDS

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST. First race: 12.30pm

COTHELSTONE, nr Taunton, Somerset

Secretaries: Mrs B Tully & Mrs S Baker.

Telephone: 01278 732944

BLACKMORE & SPARKFORD VALE*

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH. First race: 12.30pm

CHARLTON HORETHORNE, nr Sherborne, Dorset

Secretary: Mrs C Hinks. Telephone: 01963 370260

NEW FOREST* - SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH.

First race: 12.30pm

LARKHILL, nr Amesbury, Wiltshire

Secretary: Mr J Young. Telephone:

01590 622515

WILTON - Saturday, March 21st

First (Charity Flat) race: 12.30pm

First (Point-to-Point) race: 1.30pm

MILBORNE ST ANDREW, nr Bere Regis, Dorset

Secretaries: Mr & Mrs M Elgar. Telephone: 01722 718368

MENDIP FARMERS*

SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND. First race: 12.30pm

EASTON, nr Shepton Mallet, Somerset

Secretary: Mrs M Dowds. Telephone: 01761 241339

AVON VALE - SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH.

First race: 1.30pm

LARKHILL, nr Amesbury, Wiltshire

Secretary: Mrs A Palmer. Telephone: 07976 335400

COTLEY* - SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH.

First race: 1.30pm

COTLEY, nr Chard, Somerset

Secretary: Mr A Palmer. Telephone: 01297 678525

PORTMAN

EASTER SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH.

First race: 2.00pm

BADBURY RINGS, nr Wimborne, Dorset

Secretary: Mrs S Old. Telephone: 01258 817101

TAUNTON VALE FOXHOUNDS & HARRIERS* - EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 6TH.

First race: 1.30pm

KINGSTON ST MARY, nr Taunton, Somerset

Secretary: Mrs V Kemp. Telephone: 01404 881353

SEAVINGTON - SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH.

First race: 2.00pm

LITTLEWINDSOR, nr Beaminster,

Dorset

Secretary: Mr G Rendell. Telephone: 01308 868332

SOUTH & WEST WILTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH

First (Charity Flat) race: 1.15pm

First (Point-to-Point) race: 2.00pm

LARKHILL, nr Amesbury, Wiltshire

Secretary: Mrs E Marriott. Telephone: 01747 840062

DEVON & SOMERSET STAGHOUNDS

SUNDAY, MAY 3RD. First race: 2pm

HOLNICOTE, nr Minehead, Somerset

Secretary: Mrs J Rawle. Telephone: 01398 332157

CATTISTOCK*

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, MAY 4TH.

First race: 2pm

LITTLEWINDSOR, nr Beaminster, Dorset

Secretary: Mrs N Atkinson. Telephone: 01935 83892

MINEHEAD HARRIERS & WEST SOMERSET - SATURDAY, MAY 9TH.

First race: 2pm

HOLNICOTE, nr Minehead, Somerset

Secretaries: Ms K Boutflower & Mrs D Stevens. Telephone: 01984 629266

WESTON & BANWELL HARRIERS*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH.

First race: 4.30pm

COTHELSTONE, nr Taunton, Somerset

Secretary: Mr J Fear. Telephone: 01278 783261

WEST SOMERSET VALE*

SUNDAY, MAY 24TH.

First race: 1.30pm

COTHELSTONE, nr Taunton, Somerset

Secretary: Miss K Cooke. Telephone: 01934 853330.

*Meeting includes pony racing

darts news

Axminster
League

Team	Pld	Pts
Red Lion A.....	7	30
Tons of Bull.....	5	22
Vault A.....	4	17
Vault B.....	4	17
Con Club.....	5	17
Double P.....	4	12
Vault C.....	5	12
Ax Inn.....	5	9
Red Necks.....	4	9
Lamb Shanks.....	3	3
Red Bulls.....	4	3

Singles	Pld	Pts
Red Lion A.....	7	21
Tons of Bull.....	5	13
Vault C.....	5	11
Vault A.....	4	10
Ax Inn.....	5	10
Vault B.....	4	9
Con Club.....	5	9
Lamb Shanks.....	3	5
Red Necks.....	4	5
Double P.....	4	4
Red Bulls.....	4	3

◆ **Captains:** Please ensure all result cards are returned to The Axminster Inn (some results are still outstanding).

Colyton
& District

1001/pairs	Pld	Pts
Seaton FC A.....	8	31
PJs.....	8	26
Seaton FC B.....	8	24
Vault.....	8	21
Dolphin.....	8	19
Kingfisher A.....	8	18
Beer Club.....	8	18
Kingfisher B.....	8	12
Golden Hind.....	8	11

Singles	Pld	Pts
Seaton FC A.....	8	37
Seaton FC B.....	8	29
Kingfisher A.....	8	26
Vault.....	8	25
Kingfisher B.....	8	23
PJs.....	8	23
Dolphin.....	8	21
Golden Hind.....	8	17
Beer Club.....	8	15

Seaton
& District

Table	P 301	501	601	Pts
PJs.....	7	64	33	22 119
King's B.....	7	61	35	18 114
Football.....	7	49	29	19 97
Vault.....	7	45	19	18 82
King's A.....	7	48	19	9 76
Malt Hse.....	7	43	18	13 74

Lyme Regis
& District

Current table	Pld	Pts
Rockpoint.....	6	12
Nags Head A.....	5	10
Rousdon Club.....	4	8
Janners.....	6	8
Hunters Lodge.....	6	7
Royal Standard.....	5	5
Talbot Arms.....	7	5
Nags Z.....	4	4
Four Play.....	5	4
George.....	7	3
Cobb Arms.....	8	2
Half an Octopus.....	5	0

180s: Mark Barnett, Tom Bond, Wayne Doble, Mark Doherty & Chris Higgs all x1.

football extra millwey rise fc



■ **PROMOTION AIM:** Millwey Rise moved up to second place in the Perry Street League Division One with a recent 5-0 win at Lyme Regis Bantams. Line-up, standing, from left; Simon Flint (manager), Matty Lewis, Ali Trueman, Nathan Hoole, Shane Featherstone, Leo Maguire, Dave Bridges, Dan Murnane. Front; Stuart King, Sam Dibling, Danny Larcombe (Capt), Mark Pike, Haydn Lewis, Keith Forsey.

Photo by HOWARD LARCOMBE

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